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INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification 6 : A01K 67/027, 67/033, C12N 15/00		A2	(11) International Publication Number: WO 98/28971 (43) International Publication Date: 9 July 1998 (09.07.98)
<p>(21) International Application Number: PCT/US97/23819</p> <p>(22) International Filing Date: 31 December 1997 (31.12.97)</p> <p>(30) Priority Data: 08/778,645 3 January 1997 (03.01.97) US 60/080,222 3 January 1997 (03.01.97) US</p> <p>(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): UNIVERSITY TECHNOLOGY CORPORATION [US/US]; Suite 250, 3101 Iris Avenue, Boulder, CO 80301 (US).</p> <p>(72) Inventor; and (75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): LINK, Christopher [US/US]; 1837 Spruce Street, Boulder, CO 80302 (US).</p> <p>(74) Agents: MONROY, Gladys, H. et al.; Morrison & Foerster LLP, 755 Page Mill Road, Palo Alto, CA 94304-1018 (US).</p>		<p>(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, GH, GM, GW, HU, ID, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).</p> <p>Published <i>Without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report.</i></p>	
<p>(54) Title: BETA-AMYLOID TOXICITY</p> <p>(57) Abstract</p> <p>The present invention relates to methods and compositions for visualization of the toxic effects of transgenes <i>in vivo</i>. In particular, the present invention provides methods and compositions for the production and use of transgenic, including dually transgenic, <i>Caenorhabditis elegans</i> for visualization of the toxic effects of β-amyloid accumulation <i>in vivo</i>.</p>			

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BETA-AMYLOID TOXICITY

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention is in the field of medicine and molecular biology. In particular, the invention provides transgenic non-human animals in which expression of a reporter gene is induced by a toxic transgene. The invention also provides methods and compositions for *in vivo* visualization of the toxicity associated with toxic proteins. In addition, the present invention provides methods and compositions for the production and use of transgenic non-human animals for screening candidate drugs to assess and treat toxicity.

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BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Investigation of the molecular mechanisms of various diseases has suggested that many pathologies are caused by expression of proteins that are immediately or gradually deleterious to the cells where they are expressed. Among these diseases are Alzheimer's disease, prion diseases, Huntington's disease, and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis. Several of these diseases are thought to result from aberrant folding of proteins, which results in the accumulation of toxic proteins or protein aggregates.

Alzheimer's disease is associated with the majority of dementia cases in the United States, with an estimated 2 million people afflicted with the disease, and a mortality rate of approximately 100,000 people per year (See, R.W.P. Cutler, "Degenerative and Hereditary Diseases," in *Medicine*, Scientific American, New York, (1988), pages 11 (IV):1-13; and R. Katzman (1986) *N. Engl. J. Med.* 314:964). It has been estimated that the total cost for nursing home care alone of Alzheimer's patients exceeds \$13 billion/year (See, M.M. Heckler (1985) *Am. Psychol.* 40:1240). According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), mortality due to Alzheimer's disease in the United States increased 10-fold between 1979 and 1987 (0.4 per 100,000 to 4.2 per 100,000) (See, "Reported death rate for Alzheimer's is up tenfold since 1979," (1990) *Clin. Psychiatr. News* 18:21).

Patients suffering from Alzheimer's disease typically suffer progressive memory deficit, progressive decline in cognitive functions, anxiety, depression, visuospatial and speech deficits, delusions, personality changes, motor skill deterioration, loss of verbal

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ability, and incontinence. Eventually, patients are completely incapacitated and disoriented, requiring total care. The course of Alzheimer's disease ranges from less than three years to over 20 years before death occurs. However, in typical cases, it progresses at a fairly constant rate, with an average duration of 6 to 10 years.

5 Alzheimer's disease is not the only cause of dementia. Indeed, there are over fifty recognized causes of dementia. As some causes of dementia are amenable to treatment, differential diagnosis of patients suffering dementia is particularly important. Because at least 20% of clinically diagnosed patients were found at autopsy to have had conditions other than Alzheimer's disease, the National Institute of Neurological and Communicative
10 Disorders and Stroke (NINCDS) and Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Association (ADRDA) refined the clinical diagnostic criteria for Alzheimer's disease (See, M.A. Jenike, "Psychiatry," in *Medicine*, Scientific American, New York, [1991], pages 13 (V):1-5). Based on these criteria, the diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease may be "definite" (i.e., requiring examination of brain tissue), "probable" (i.e., patients have deficits in two or
15 more areas of cognition, insidious onset of disease, progressive worsening of memory and other cognitive functions, and normal consciousness levels), or "possible" (i.e., patients meet the criteria for probable Alzheimer's disease, but exhibit variations in the disease course or have a systemic illness that is sufficient to cause dementia, but is not considered to be the cause of the dementia).

20 The numerous varieties of dementia, and variations in patient presentations, often make diagnosis problematic. Thus, the NINCDS/ADRDA criteria are very detailed, and necessitate the thorough examination of patients with suspected Alzheimer's disease. Currently, the only way to obtain a definite diagnosis is by post-mortem histological examination of brain tissue for the presence of senile plaques.

25 The histopathological lesions of Alzheimer's disease include neuritic or senile plaques, neurofibrillary degeneration, and granulovacuolar neuronal degeneration. The senile plaques usually contain a core of insoluble, amyloidic extracellular material (" β -amyloid) surrounded by a halo of neurofibrillary tangles and dystrophic neurons. The primary protein component of the amyloidic core of senile plaques is a 4.2 kd amyloid β peptide (often referred to as " $A\beta$ "). A number of other proteins have also been identified
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as components of senile plaques, including anti-chymotrypsin and apolipoprotein E. The major component of the neurofibrillary tangles is an abnormally phosphorylated microtubule-associated protein referred to as "tau." The β -amyloid protein in senile plaques is a small glycoprotein (*i.e.*, a 39-43 amino acid protein, derived from the larger amyloid precursor protein), that has been detected in non-neural tissues (*e.g.*, skin, subcutaneous tissue, and intestines) and blood vessels of Alzheimer's disease patients (*See, Cutler, supra*). Deposits of amyloid may be detected by their ability to bind specific dyes, such as Congo red or thioflavin S. Thus, it has been further hypothesized that detection of this protein may serve as a potential diagnostic aid in the assessment of patients suffering from dementia.

Alzheimer's disease usually arises spontaneously, although genetics play a role in development of the disease. For example, the histopathologic lesions of Alzheimer's disease have been regularly observed in the brains of older patients dying of Down's syndrome (*See, Cutler, supra*). It is known that the β -amyloid gene resides on chromosome 21. As Down's patients have an extra copy of this chromosome, there is an increased expression of this chromosome in these patients. It has been hypothesized that increased expression of the β -amyloid gene may regulate the formation of amyloid plaques ("senile plaques") in these patients. In addition, four loci were recently identified as playing a role in the genetic susceptibility of Alzheimer's disease (*See, Pericak-Vance and Haines (1995) Trends Genet. 11:504*).

Other potential risk factors for the development of Alzheimer's disease include environmental factors (*e.g.*, head trauma, smoking, and exposure to heavy metals), sociological factors (*e.g.*, depression and educational level), biological factors (*e.g.*, increasing age and hyperthyroidism), and a family history of Alzheimer's disease, Down's syndrome, or Parkinson's disease (*See, Pericak-Vance and Haines, supra*). Nonetheless, despite recent advances, the exact etiology and pathogenesis of Alzheimer's disease remain largely unknown.

In addition to the problems associated with diagnosing Alzheimer's disease, improvements are needed in the area of treatment. Many agents have been tested for their ability to treat the cognitive decline associated with Alzheimer's disease. For example,

various cholinergic enhancers (e.g., choline and lecithin) have been tested. Unfortunately, cholinergic precursors have been shown to be not useful, although some drugs that stimulate cholinergic transmission may be helpful in some patients. One example is physostigmine, a compound that prevents the synaptic breakdown of acetylcholine.

5 However, the overall clinical effect of this drug has not been as dramatic as initially hoped (See, M.A. Jenike, "Psychiatry," in *Medicine*, Scientific American, New York, (1991), pages 13 (V):1-5).

Other drugs, such as tetrahydroaminoacridine (THA or tacrine), a centrally acting anti-cholinesterase, have been tested. In a large multi-center trial of THA, liver enzyme abnormalities were reported and the preliminary results indicated that, at least at low dosages, THA is not an effective treatment of Alzheimer's disease (Jenike, *supra*). Ergoloid mesylates (Hydergine) is an extremely safe compound, and remains the most commonly prescribed drug for patients with Alzheimer's disease. However, the overall effects of the drug are at best minimal.

15 The mechanisms of toxicity due to accumulation of β -peptide are currently the subject of much investigation, and no definitive causes of toxicity have yet been established. (See, Benzi and Moretti (1995) *Neurobiology of Aging*, 16:661-674). Because of this uncertainty, efforts to develop mechanism-based treatment regimens have not been possible. Compounds presently in use to treat Alzheimer's disease only serve to 20 alleviate the systemic effects associated with the disease.

In order to study disease mechanisms and genetic-based phenomena, animals in which a foreign gene has been inserted have been described by various researchers. International Patent Application WO 96/03034 describes insertion of retroviral vectors into fish, in order to produce fish with desirable traits or to study development. Various 25 transgenic animal models for Alzheimer's disease are described in International Patent Applications WO 93/14200, WO 93/02189, WO 94/12627, WO 94/23049, and European Patent Publication EP 653154. Typically these transgenic animals are mice or other mammals; however, β -amyloid peptide has been expressed in the nematode *Caenorhabditis elegans* (Link (1995) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci.* 92: 9368). The use of *C. elegans* for investigation of mutant forms of the *C. elegans* genes *mec-4* and *deg-1*, which

cause neurodegeneration, is described in U.S. Patent No. 5,196,333. Drawbacks to mammalian animals as model systems are the relatively long generation time, which makes mammals less desirable for high-throughput screening of potential pharmaceuticals, and the difficulty in studying the molecular processes of interest without sacrificing the animal for cell and tissue analysis.

5 Reporter genes are genes that encode proteins or other compounds that can be detected by a variety of methods, and which "report" the occurrence of successful introduction and expression of gene sequences. β -galactosidase and luciferase are examples of such reporter genes. Recently, the gene for green fluorescent protein (GFP) of 10 the jellyfish *Aequorea victoria* has been described in U.S. Patent No. 5,491,084. This gene can provide a method for indicating expression of a gene via fluorescent detection of GFP. The drawback to using GFP in mammalian systems is as described above, that is, the need to sacrifice the mammal in order to analyze the cells and tissues of interest. This drawback is especially severe in the context of large-scale screening of potential therapeutic 15 compounds, and U.S. Patent No. 5,491,084 does not describe a system suitable for high-throughput screening of pharmaceuticals for activity against toxic proteins expressed in cells.

Thus, methods and animal systems are needed to screen drugs quickly and 20 inexpensively for their effects on proteins and other substances associated with Alzheimer's disease. Convenient methods and animal systems for screening drugs for other neurodegenerative diseases, such as prion diseases, Huntington's disease, and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, are also desirable.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

25 The present invention provides methods and compositions useful for the production and use of dually transgenic animals, in particular *Caenorhabditis elegans*. In addition, in one embodiment, the present invention provides transparent animals that express a reporter gene inducible by a toxic transgene. In a preferred embodiment, the toxic transgene encodes β -peptide. Although it is not intended that the present invention be limited to any 30 particular reporter, in a preferred embodiment, the reporter gene is green fluorescence.

protein (GFP). It is contemplated that the effects or product of the reporter gene be observable (*i.e.*, the reporter gene is expressed). For example, in embodiments in which GFP is the reporter, its presence is detected using fluorescence microscopy. In addition, in these embodiments, the animals do not need to be sacrificed in order to observe the expression of the reporter gene (*i.e.*, the detection may be accomplished on living animals).
5 If other reporters are used, other detection methods may be necessary. For example, *lacZ* expression may be detected by exposing the tissues of the animal to the substrate for the gene (*i.e.*, β -galactoside), and observing for the presence of blue dye in the tissues.
10 However, this method requires that the animal be sacrificed in order to observe the expression of the reporter gene.

In one alternate embodiment, the genome of the transparent animal further contains a heterologous marker gene. In a preferred embodiment, the marker gene is *rol-6(su-1006)*. In the embodiments in which *rol-6(su-1006)*, expression of the marker gene is accomplished by observing the living animals for the rolling behavior that results due to the expression of the abnormal collagen gene. In contrast, wild-type animals exhibit normal locomotion and do not exhibit this rolling behavior, as their collagen is normal.
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In an alternative embodiment, the first transgene of the dually transgenic non-human animal comprises pCL25. In another alternative embodiment, the second transgene of the dually transgenic non-human animal comprises pCL12. In one alternate embodiment, the genome of the transparent animal further contains a heterologous marker gene. In a preferred embodiment, the marker gene is *rol-6(su-1006)*. In the embodiments in which *rol-6(su-1006)*, expression of the marker gene is accomplished by observing the living animals for the rolling behavior that results due to the expression of the abnormal collagen gene. In contrast, wild-type animals exhibit normal locomotion and do not exhibit this rolling behavior, as their collagen is normal.
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In a preferred embodiment, the transparent animal is selected from the class Nematoda. Although it is not intended that the transparent animal of the present invention be limited to any specific animal, in a particularly preferred embodiment, the transparent animal is *Caenorhabditis elegans*.

In an alternate embodiment the cells of the transparent animal display toxicity resulting from the accumulation of β -peptide within the cells. In one preferred embodiment, the genome of the transparent animal comprises SEQ ID NO:5 and SEQ ID NO:8.

5 The present invention also provides methods for producing dually transgenic non-human animal comprising: providing: a first and second non-human animal; a first transgene comprising β -peptide; and a second transgene, comprising a reporter; introducing the first transgene into the genome of the first non-human animal to produce a first transgenic animal, and introducing the second transgene into the genome of the second non-human animal to produce a second transgenic animal; and mating the first transgenic animal with the second transgenic animal to produce a dually transgenic animal, wherein the β -peptide and the reporter are expressed.

10 In one embodiment of the methods of the present invention the dually transgenic non-human animal is transparent. In a preferred embodiment, the transparent animal is a nematode, while in a particularly preferred embodiment, the animal is *Caenorhabditis elegans*.

15 In an alternative embodiment, the first transgene of the dually transgenic non-human animal comprises pCL25. In another alternative embodiment, the second transgene of the dually transgenic non-human animal comprises pCL12. In one alternate embodiment, the genome of the transparent animal further contains a heterologous marker gene. In a preferred embodiment, the marker gene is *rol-6(su-1006)*. In the embodiments in which *rol-6(su-1006)*, expression of the marker gene is accomplished by observing the living animals for the rolling behavior that results due to the expression of the abnormal collagen gene. In contrast, wild-type animals exhibit normal locomotion and do not exhibit this rolling behavior, as their collagen is normal.

20 The present invention also comprises methods for testing compounds for anti-toxic effects, comprising: providing a dually transgenic non-human animal expressing a toxic transgene and a reporter; a composition comprising a test compound in a form suitable for administration such that the compound is bioavailable in the cells of the animal; and 25 administering the test compound to the non-human animal. The toxic transgene induces

expression of the reporter gene. In a preferred embodiment, the toxic transgene is β -peptide and the reporter gene is GFP. In one embodiment, the method further comprises the step of measuring a reduction or increase in the expression of the reporter by the dually transgenic non-human animal and thereby identifying a compound as therapeutic. In a particularly preferred embodiment of the methods, the compounds inactivate the β -peptide expressed by the dually transgenic animal.

In one embodiment of the methods for testing compounds for β -peptide toxicity, the dually transgenic non-human animal is transparent. In a preferred embodiment, the transparent animal is a nematode, while in a particularly preferred embodiment, the animal is *Caenorhabditis elegans*. In an alternative embodiment, the first transgene of the dually transgenic non-human animal comprises pCL25. In another alternative embodiment, the second transgene of the dually transgenic non-human animal comprises pCL12. In one alternate embodiment, the genome of the transparent animal further contains a heterologous marker gene. In a preferred embodiment, the marker gene is *rol-6(su-1006)*, which produces effects described herein.

In one alternative embodiment, one or more test compounds are tested for their ability to counter the toxic effects of transgene product. It is also contemplated that the test compounds will be tested for their ability to prevent the expression of the toxic transgene, for example, β -peptide.

In alternative embodiments, dually transgenic animals in which the expression of, or effects of transgene toxicity, are reduced or eliminated by the test compounds, are mated. The progeny of these matings are also then tested for the effects of test compounds on the expression of, or effects of toxicity. In yet another embodiment, the progeny of these matings are used in other assay systems for the identification of therapeutic compounds.

In yet another alternative embodiment, the dually transgenic animals of the present invention are used to identify methods suitable for the diagnostic testing of Alzheimer's disease or pathology due to other diseases. Thus, the dually transgenic animals of the present invention are used to develop assays suitable for use in humans or animal models of Alzheimer's disease.

DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGURES

Figure 1 is a diagram illustrating the construction of dual transgenic animals expressing β-amyloid peptide and an hsp/GFP reporter.

5 Figure 2 shows the DNA sequence (SEQ ID NO:5) and restriction map for pCL12.

Figure 3 is a graphic map of pCL12.

Figure 4 shows the DNA (SEQ ID NO:6), and amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO:7) of pCL12 from nucleotide 1071 through 1253 (*i.e.*, the β-(1-42) nucleic acid and amino acid sequence).

10 Figure 5 shows the DNA sequence (SEQ ID NO:8) and restriction map for pGFP-TT.

Figure 6 is a graphic map of pGFP-TT.

Figure 7 shows the DNA sequence (SEQ ID NO:9) and restriction map for pCL25.

Figure 8 is a graphic map of pCL25.

15 Figure 9 shows the DNA sequence (SEQ ID NO:10) of *rol*-6.

Figure 10 shows the amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO:11) of *rol*-6.

DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

20 The present invention provides methods and compositions useful for the production and use of transgenic animals. The methods and transgenic animals of the invention also provide an efficient and effective system for screening drug effective in ameliorating the effects of toxic gene products.

The practice of the present invention will employ, unless otherwise indicated, conventional techniques of molecular biology, microbiology, cell biology and recombinant DNA, which are within the skill of the art. *See, e.g.*, Sambrook, Fritsch, and Maniatis, MOLECULAR CLONING: A LABORATORY MANUAL, 2nd edition (1989); CURRENT PROTOCOLS IN MOLECULAR BIOLOGY, (F.M. Ausubel et al. eds., 1987); the series METHODS IN ENZYMOLOGY (Academic Press, Inc.); PCR 2: A PRACTICAL APPROACH (M.J. McPherson, B.D. Hames and G.R. Taylor eds., 1995); ANIMAL CELL CULTURE (R.I.

Freshney, Ed., 1987); and ANTIBODIES: A LABORATORY MANUAL (Harlow et al. eds., 1987).

Animals

5 The methods and systems described herein can be practiced with any non-human animal. In a preferred embodiment, the animal used is transparent for at least part of its life cycle, for example, oocytes (*Xenopus* or others); larvae; pupae, fish (zebrafish or others); and nematodes, such as *C. elegans*. *C. elegans* is particularly preferred because it is transparent throughout its life and has been extensively studied as a model to determine
10 developmentally regulated gene expression, as well as pattern formation. The visibility of all of the animals' cells throughout their life cycles, has led to the complete determination of the cell lineages, and a detailed description of the morphogenic changes that occur during *C. elegans* development. Rapid methods for introduction of cloned DNA into the *C. elegans* germ line has provided means to study molecular function and expression *in vivo*, as the effects of the gene expression are usually readily visible in the transparent
15 worms.

Reporter Molecules

20 The methods and compositions of the present invention make use of reporter genes to monitor gene activity. Visible and quantifiable reporter genes are known and described in the art. Successfully used reporter molecules in gene fusion vectors in studies with *C. elegans* include the *E. coli lacZ* coding region (See e.g., A. Fire et al., (1990) *Gene* 93:189-198), and the *Aequorea victoria gfp* coding region (See e.g., M. Chalfie et al., (1994) *Science* 263:802-805; D.C. Prasher et al., (1992) *Gene* 111:229-233; and Genbank
25 Accession #M62654), which produces an intrinsically fluorescent protein. Although various fusion expression vectors have been used and reported in the literature, problems have been encountered (See e.g., A. Fire, "Fire Lab Vector Kit"--June 1995). For example, with *lacZ*, there have been many reports in which it was not possible to correlate transgene expression patterns with physiological expectations, or only weak correlations have been
30 possible. Ectopic expression is often frequently seen with short promoters, and occurs

most prominently in the gut and pharynx of the affected animals. This may be due to weak promoter and/or enhancer signals in the vectors. Expression pattern deficits of *lacZ* fusions have been classified into three groups. In the first, transgenes are expressed in the correct tissue, but mosaic expression is observed (*i.e.*, only a subset of the cells stain 5 during the detection methods). This has been observed even with integrated high-copy transgenes. In the second group, expression in a single tissue or cell population is not seen with the transgene. Finally, there has been the failure of transgene fusion constructs to show expression in the pre-12 cell embryo, or in any embryonic, larval, or adult germ line.

The *gfp* fusion vectors were developed as an alternative to the *lacZ* markers, but 10 have been available for a much shorter time (*See e.g.*, Chalfie *et al.* (1994), *supra*; U.S. Patent No. 5,491,084). Initial reports indicate that the fluorescence pattern appears to be more restricted than that exhibited by equivalent *lacZ* fusion. In addition, there are still problems associated with the germline expression of the transgenes and ectopic expression. Indeed, in some cases, the problems with ectopic expression have been exacerbated by 15 these "improvements."

The present invention overcomes many of these problems described in the art. The transparent animals and dually transgenic animals described herein provide easily visible, stably expressed systems in which the toxic transgene and reporter gene are expressed similarly to endogenous chromosomal gene expression. These animals provide an 20 excellent system for screening compounds having effects on the toxic transgene. The present invention, therefore, provides model systems for the study of human diseases and methods of identifying therapeutic compounds using these animal systems.

Inducible Promoters

As discussed above, the reporter genes are operably linked to an inducible 25 promoter. The promoter is induced by the toxic transgene, for example by the gene product of the toxic transgene. It is also contemplated that the toxic transgene can act to induce the promoter indirectly, for example by disrupting other cellular proteins or functions. Suitable inducible promoters are available and can be readily determined by 30 those skilled in the art. Non-limiting examples of promoters which are induced by

"stresses" include the metallothionein gene promoter (*mtl-1* or *mtl-2*; e.g., Genbank Accession #M92910, #M11794, #X00504, and #X00953), and the *C. elegans* amyloid precursor protein (APP) homolog *apl-1* gene promoter (See e.g., Daigle and Li, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci., 90:12045-12049 [1993]). Other potential promoters include those from other inducible heat-shock genes; at least one of the known *C. elegans* *hsp70* genes is strongly heat-inducible. It is also contemplated that promoters from genes known to be up-regulated under stress conditions in other systems (e.g., superoxide dismutase, catalase, glutathione reductase, etc.) may also be useful.

In one embodiment, as described in the Examples below, a strong muscle-specific promoter was used to express a potentially secretable form of the β -peptide, so as to generate significant extracellular levels of β -peptide. This was accomplished in order to mimic the situation that may exist in the human brain, and allow observations of cell-external neurotoxicity. The present inventor has also demonstrated that the promoter must be chosen so that enough β -peptide is produced to cause physiological effects, but not so much to kill the animals.

The *unc-54*/ β -(1-42) minigene was constructed with a modified signal sequence that has been previously shown to allow secretion of a *her-1* protein product that is ectopically expressed in muscle cells (M.D. Perry *et al.*, (1993) *Genes Dev.*, 7:216-228). The development of *C. elegans* transgenic for expression of β -amyloid was previously described by the inventor (Link, (1995) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci.*, 92:9368-9572).

However, in early experiments, it was observed that β -peptide deposits were not convincingly detected outside of the muscle cells, when tested with the antibodies described in Example 4, below. While an understanding of the mechanism is not necessary for the practice of the present invention, it is apparent that the majority of β -peptide expressed by the transgenic worms is retained in the muscle cells and is responsible for the pathology observed in the muscle cells.

It is also contemplated that β -peptide expression will be directed to other tissues, through utilization of appropriate promoters. For example, it is contemplated that animals expressing β -peptide in the intestine may be particularly useful to analyze compounds such

as drugs for their effect on β -peptide, as these cells readily take up exogenous compounds administered orally.

Transgenes

5 The transgene element of the present invention can be any sequence which is able to induce the promoter operably linked to the reporter gene. As noted, the transgene is "toxic" in the sense that it disrupts cellular function in some way. Preferably, the transgene encodes a protein that is toxic to the host cells and/or organism in that it causes deleterious effects to the host, for instance interfering with the host's ability to survive
10 and/or grow. The toxic transgenes encode proteins that disrupt cellular function directly (e.g., the gene product is toxic) or indirectly (e.g., the sequence of the transgene disrupts cellular function by some mechanism other than its gene product). Toxic proteins are distinguishable from simple chemical toxins (e.g., heavy metals and the like) by their antigenicity and higher molecular weight.

15 In one embodiment, the toxic transgene comprises a gene encoding for an amyloidic protein, for example beta amyloid peptide, prion protein variants, transthyretin variants, gelsolin variants, cystatin variants, lysozyme variants and the like. In another embodiment, the transgene encodes a protein containing polyglutamine resulting from triplet-repeat expansion such as huntingtin (a protein that has been implicated in Huntington's Chorea), ataxin-1 or ataxin-2. Alternatively, proteins associated with inherent amyelotopic lateral sclerosis (ALS) for example, superoxide dismutase 1 variants and over-expressed neurofilament protein, can be used. It will be understood that the transgene can encode for an entire toxic protein or, alternatively, a functional (*i.e.* toxic) fragment.
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Transgenic Animals

In one aspect, the present invention includes a dually transgenic non-human animal. In one embodiment, the development of these dually transgenic animals involves the production of two *C. elegans* lines with a single transgene in each line, designated as CL2005 and CL2070. *C. elegans* was chosen due to the observation that the toxic effect of

β-amyloid has been reported to occur in these animals, in addition to humans. Line CL2005 exhibited muscle-specific expression of human β peptide, while line CL2070 exhibited stress-inducible expression of GFP. GFP was incorporated into the present invention as it provides a marker (*i.e.*, "reporter") that is readily visible in living worms. Thus, dually transgenic animals both express β-peptide in their muscle cells and under appropriate conditions for observation (*i.e.*, fluorescence microscopy), exhibit green fluorescence in these cells.

Mating of these lines resulted in the production of dually transgenic animals, in which the presence of β-amyloid was easy to detect, due to the fact that the dually transgenic animals expressing β-amyloid glowed green. Thus, the present invention provides an easily detectable method for the specific expression of β-peptide in dually transgenic animals. This ease of detection provides great advantages for the development of methods to analyze the effects of β-amyloid *in vivo*. In addition, because the dually transgenic animals are not killed in order to detect the presence of β-amyloid, as would be required if other reporters (*e.g.*, lacZ or luciferase) were used, the animals may be useful for screening compounds for their effects on β-amyloid in an *in vivo* situation. Thus, the use of an reporter which is detectable *in vivo* provides significant advantages over currently available methods.

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Other Advantages of Transgenic *C. elegans*

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The present invention also includes methods of screening compounds for their ability to prevent or inhibit toxicity due to the toxic transgene. In these drug screening embodiments, the methods and animals described above can be used to identify potential therapies. For example, in assays to develop compounds to block the expression of β-amyloid or counter its toxic effects, transgenic worms (*e.g.*, green fluorescing worms with muscle-specific β-peptide expression), would be observed for their loss of fluorescence. In assays where the compound is effective in countering the expression of β-peptide or effects of β-peptide, the animals would no longer glow green. It is easy to visually screen and quantify (using commercially available equipment) for animals that have lost the ability to glow, and then use them to detail the interaction between the compound and the toxic

transgene. The present invention provides a fast and efficient screening system, for example by using commercially available equipment for assaying multiple compounds at once.

Thus, the transgenic animals of the present invention expressing a detectable reporter gene triggered by a toxic transgene provide animal models for human diseases. For instance, a reporter gene (such as GFP) induced by expression of β -peptide provides an animal model for human Alzheimer's disease. It is also not intended that the present invention be limited to animals expressing β -peptide in conjunction with GFP. It is contemplated that expression of other proteins associated with dementia and/or 10 Alzheimer's or other diseases would also find use in conjunction with GFP in *C. elegans* as well. For example, it is contemplated that proteins (including mutated versions of proteins) such as the presenilins associated with Alzheimer's disease (See e.g., J. Marx (1996) *Science* 274:1838-1840) will be used in conjunction with GFP and full-length APP in dually transgenic *C. elegans*. Other toxic proteins which provide animal models for 15 other human diseases are described herein.

These transgenic animals also provide a means to screen compounds for their ability to decrease or eliminate the toxicity. Examples of compounds suitable for testing using the transgenic animals of the present invention include, but are not limited to, Congo Red, tumor necrosis factor (TNF), estrogen, tacrine (9-amino-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroacridine), dihydroepiandrosterone (DHEA), compounds that inhibit ApoE4, and others, 20 commercially available from suppliers such as Sigma. Compounds to be tested for anti-toxic activity are administered to the same number of dually transgenic animals (e.g., generated using the methods described in the Examples, below) from the control group and the treatment group, and the presence or absence of reporter gene used as a measure of 25 efficacy.

The compounds being tested can be administered using any suitable route (e.g., oral, parenteral, controlled-release transdermal methods, and implants, etc.). In one preferred route, the compounds to be tested are suspended in the growth media provided to the worms. Generally speaking, the route of administration will depend on the stability of 30 the compound, the susceptibility of the compound to "first pass" metabolism, the

concentration needed to achieve a therapeutic effect, and the like. Following initial screening, a compound that appears promising (*i.e.*, which increases the number of worms which display reduced β -peptide toxicity) is further evaluated by administering various concentrations of the compound to additional transgenic animals in order to determine an approximate therapeutic dosing range.

Another screening method involves the crossing of the transgenic worms of the present invention with other transgenic worms. The animals are observed after treatment, in the presence and absence of the test compound(s), with the effects on the toxic transgene being gauged either by crude survival or the presence/absence of the reporter gene. It is also contemplated that the methods of the present invention be modified so as to provide means to analyze disease-related proteins believed to have dominant toxic effects, by substituting appropriate sequences for the β -peptide sequences used as described in the Examples. For example, proteins such as transthyretin (known to be associated with familial amyloid polyneuropathy; *See e.g.*, Christmason *et al.*, (1991) *FEBS* 281:177-180; Genbank Accession #D00096), and variant superoxide dismutase (known to be associated with familial amyotrophic lateral sclerosis [Lou Gehrig's disease]), prion proteins, A4 amyloid protein (*See e.g.*, Ponte *et al.*, (1988) *Nature* 331:525-527; Salbaum *et al.*, U.S. Patent No. 5,151,508, herein incorporated by reference), APP (*See e.g.*, Kitaguchi *et al.*, (1988) *Nature* 331:530-532; Sata *et al.*, EP Appln. 94117512.7; Scott *et al.*, WO 9412627, Wadsworth *et al.*, WO 9314200; Gearhart *et al.*, WO 9423049; and Neve *et al.*, WO 9302189, all of which are herein incorporated by reference), other amyloidic proteins (*e.g.*, variant lysozymes and amylin peptide), and other proteins associated with neuronal degeneration (*See e.g.*, U.S. Patent No. 5,196,333), will be used in the methods of the present invention by substituting the appropriate nucleic acid sequences encoding the protein of interest for the β -peptide described in Example 1. It is also contemplated that animals transgenic for dual proteins (*e.g.*, β -peptide in combination with another protein, such as transthyretin) will be used. Thus, the present invention provides the means to analyze the effects of numerous genes and proteins *in vivo*.

Furthermore, the transgenic animals of the present invention provide distinct advantages over other transgenic animals currently used to analyze diseases such as

Alzheimer's disease. Due to the short gestation period of *C. elegans*, transgenic animals can be produced much more rapidly than when mammals, such as mice are used. For example, transgenic mice overexpressing a 695 amino acid isoform of β -amyloid precursor did not show learning and memory impairment until they were 9-10 months of age (Hsiao *et al.*, Science 274:99-102 [1996]). In contrast, the transgenic animals of the present invention express β -peptide and may be manipulated at a very early age, even in embryonic stages.

In addition, because the transgenic animals are easy to select based on the presence of the green fluorescence, invasive procedures such as surgery, necessary to analyze the effects of the toxic transgene in other animals (*e.g.*, mice) are avoided.

Finally, the apparent toxicity of β -peptide in transgenic animals was found to be temperature-dependent. Transgenic animals maintained at 25.5°C were significantly more sick than those maintained at 16°C. The animals maintained at the higher temperature became paralyzed more quickly, failed to eat or grow, failed to show normal egg-laying, and many died before reaching adulthood. However, wild-type animals grow well at either of these temperatures. The CL2005 parental line was temperature-sensitive for viability, as it was not possible to propagate this line at the elevated temperature. In the CL2070 parental line, 25.5°C maintenance was not sufficient to induce the hsp/GFP construct. The hsp/GFP response was similarly temperature-dependent. It was difficult to detect GFP when the dual transgenic animals were raised at 16°C, but GFP induction was dramatic when the animals were raised at 25.5°C.

These temperature dependency observations were exploited by the propagation of animals at 16°C, and then upshifting them to 25.5°C, when GFP induction was desired. This effect also has potential benefits in the analysis of compounds, as the animals can be pre-incubated in the presence of drugs or other compounds at the lower temperature before the upshift to the higher temperature, in order to ensure that the presumed protective effect of the drug was in place, prior to the strong induction of β -peptide toxicity. Importantly, these assays may be completed within one day and are suitable for rapid methods (*e.g.*, the use of a microtiter format and a plate fluorimeter), so that literally thousands of compounds may be tested simultaneously.

In sum, the present invention provides methods and compositions useful as animal models for disease, as well as providing methods and compositions for disease therapy and prevention. The animal testing may be supplemented and confirmed by testing on human subjects. However, the transgenic animals of the present invention allow the testing of a large number of compounds, both various methods, including those known in the art.

DEFINITIONS

To facilitate understanding of the invention, a number of terms are defined below.

The term "non-human animal" includes vertebrates such as rodents, arthropods, insects (e.g., Diptera), fish (e.g., zebrafish), non-human primates, ovines, bovines, ruminants, lagomorphs, porcines, caprines, equines, canines, felines, aves, etc. The non-human animal can be used at any stage in its development, for example oocyte, fetal, larval, pupal stages or the like. Preferred non-human animals are those that are transparent, such as certain nematodes, oocytes, larvae and fish.

As used herein, the term "transparent" is used in references to animals through which light will be transmitted. However, it is not intended that the amount of light transmittance be limited to any particular amount. For example, an animal is transparent so long as at least some light may be transmitted through its body. Non-limiting examples of transparent animals are larval stages of some animals (e.g., flies) and oocytes (e.g., *Xenopus* oocytes). Particularly preferred non-human animals are selected from the nematodes (*i.e.*, any animal in the Class Nematoda), most preferably *Caenorhabditis elegans*. However, it is contemplated that other transparent animals, such as zebrafish will be useful in the present invention. For example, transgenic zebrafish have been produced (See e.g., Lin *et al.*, PCT Publ. WO9603034; incorporated herein by reference).

The "non-human animals having a genetically engineered genotype" of the invention are preferably produced by experimental manipulation of the genome of the germline of the non-human animal. These genetically engineered non-human animals may be produced by several methods including the introduction of a "transgene" comprising nucleic acid (usually DNA) into an embryonal target cell or integration into a chromosome of the somatic and/or germ line cells of a non-human animal by way of human

intervention, such as by the methods described herein. The process by which a DNA molecule becomes stably incorporated into another genome is referred to as "stable integration." Non-human animals which contain a transgene are referred to as "transgenic non-human animals". A transgenic animal is an animal whose genome has been altered by 5 the introduction of one or more transgenes.

The term "transgene" as used herein refers to a foreign gene that is placed into an organism by introducing the foreign gene into gonadal cells, embryonic cells, newly fertilized eggs, or early embryos. The term "foreign gene" refers to any nucleic acid (e.g., gene sequence) which is introduced into the genome of an animal by experimental 10 manipulations and may include gene sequences found in that animal so long as the introduced gene contains some modification relative to the naturally-occurring gene. A preferred foreign gene is the β -amyloid gene (e.g., β -peptide), or fragments thereof. A "toxic transgene" refers to a foreign gene which disrupts cellular function in some way. For example, the toxic transgene may produce a gene product (*i.e.*, protein) which is toxic 15 to the cell or organism. Alternatively, the transgene may disrupt other cellular proteins, or act as a DNA binding site without producing a protein.

As used herein, the term "toxicity" refers to the production of toxic effects by any compound or substance. For example, while it is not necessary to the understanding and use of the present invention, β -peptide toxicity may arise due to the accumulation of β -peptide molecules. There are numerous manifestations of toxicity that may occur. For 20 example, the toxicity associated with β -peptide may be manifested as negative effects on muscle cells of dually transgenic animals.

The terms "promoter element," "promoter," or "promoter sequence" as used herein, refer to a DNA sequence that is located at the 5' end of (*i.e.*, precedes) a gene in a DNA 25 polymer and provides a site for initiation of the transcription of the gene into mRNA. An "inducible promoter" is a promoter that is triggered by certain signals within the cell, for instance binding of a transcription factor, stress, heat or the like.

The term "reporter gene" as used herein refers to genes that encode proteins or other compounds that can be detected by a variety of methods. These genes "report" the 30 occurrence of successful introduction and expression of sequences such as transgenes.

Non-limiting examples of reporter genes include antibiotic resistance genes, genes encoding enzymes and genes encoding other detectable proteins. Expression of the reporter gene is detected using methods known in the art. In a preferred embodiment, the reporter gene is a GFP gene, although *lacZ* β-galactosidase gene, or any other reporter system may be used to detect the successful production of transgenic animals. In particularly preferred embodiments, the reporter is a compound or protein which may be present or expressed within living animals. That is, it is not necessary to sacrifice the animal in order to detect the presence of the reporter. The type of the reporter gene system used is not critical to the invention, and it is contemplated that any system suitable for use with the transgenic animals of the present invention will be used.

As used herein, the terms "dual transgenic" and "dually transgenic" refer to animals or cells in which more than one transgene have been introduced. For example, the term is used in reference to cells which contain the sequences encoding β-peptide, and sequences encoding a reporter (e.g., GFP). However, it is not intended that the number of transgenes in the dually transgenic animals of the present invention be limited to two. For example, the transgenic animals may also contain another one or more marker genes (e.g., *rol-6* sequences), in addition to β-peptide and reporter sequences. In the embodiments in which *rol-6(su-1006)*, expression of the marker gene is accomplished by observing the living animals for the rolling behavior that results due to the expression of the abnormal collagen gene. In contrast, wild-type animals exhibit normal locomotion and do not exhibit this rolling behavior, as their collagen is normal.

The transgenic animals of the present invention are preferentially generated by introduction of the targeting vectors into gonad cells. Transgenes can be efficiently introduced into the cells by DNA transfection using a variety of methods known to the art, including electroporation, calcium phosphate co-precipitation, protoplast or spheroplast fusion, lipofection, and DEAE-dextran-mediated transfection. Transgenes may also be introduced into cells by retrovirus-mediated transduction or by micro-injection. In one preferred embodiment, the transgenes are injected into gonads of *C. elegans* as described by Mello *et al.* (1991) *EMBO J.*, 10:3959-3970. Alternative methods for the generation of transgenic animals containing an altered gene are known to the art. For example,

embryonal cells at various developmental stages can be used to introduce transgenes for the production of transgenic animals. Different methods are used depending on the stage of development of the embryonal cell.

A wide variety of labels and conjugation techniques are known by those skilled in the art and can be used in various nucleic acid and amino acid assays. Means for producing labeled hybridization or PCR probes for detecting related sequences include oligolabeling, nick translation, and end-labeling or PCR amplification using a labeled nucleotide. Suitable reporter molecules or labels include those radionuclides, enzymes, fluorescent, chemiluminescent, or chromogenic agents as well as substrates, cofactors, inhibitors, magnetic particles and the like. The term may also be used in reference to proteins. For example, a variety of protocols which employ polyclonal or monoclonal antibodies specific for the β -peptide protein product are known in the art (See, the Examples). These antibodies can be used as markers for the expression of proteins. Examples include enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA), radioimmunoassay (RIA) and fluorescent activated cell sorting (FACS).

The term "gene" refers to a DNA sequence that comprises coding sequences necessary for the production of a polypeptide or precursor. In some instances, a gene can also include control sequences. The polypeptide can be encoded by a full length coding sequence or by any portion of the coding sequence so long as the desired enzymatic activity is retained.

The term "gene of interest" refers to any gene, the manipulation of which may be deemed desirable for any reason, by one of ordinary skill in the art.

The term "wild-type" refers to a gene or gene product which has the characteristics of that gene or gene product when isolated from a naturally occurring source. A wild-type gene is that which is most frequently observed in a population and is thus arbitrarily designated the "normal" or "wild-type" form of the gene. In contrast, the term "modified" or "mutant" refers to a gene or gene product which displays modifications in sequence and/or functional properties (*i.e.*, altered characteristics) when compared to the wild-type gene or gene product. It is noted that naturally-occurring mutants can be isolated; these are

identified by the fact that they have altered characteristics when compared to the wild-type gene or gene product.

The terms "targeting vector" or "targeting construct" refer to oligonucleotide sequences comprising a gene of interest flanked on either side by regulatory sequences.

5 Preferably, the targeting vector is capable of homologous recombination such that the gene of interest is integrated by recombination.

As used herein, the terms "vector" and "vehicle" are used interchangeably in reference to nucleic acid molecules that transfer DNA segment(s) from one cell to another.

10 The terms "expression vector" or "expression cassette" as used herein, refers to a recombinant DNA molecule containing a desired coding sequence and appropriate nucleic acid sequences necessary for the expression of the operably linked coding sequence in a particular host organism. Nucleic acid sequences necessary for expression in prokaryotes usually include a promoter, an operator (optional), and a ribosome binding site, often along with other sequences. Eukaryotic cells are known to utilize promoters, enhancers, and 15 termination and polyadenylation signals.

20 The terms "in operable combination," "in operable order," and "operably linked" as used herein, refer to the linkage of nucleic acid sequences in such a manner that a nucleic acid molecule capable of directing the transcription of a given gene and/or the synthesis of a desired protein molecule is produced. The term also refers to the linkage of amino acid sequences in such a manner so that a functional protein is produced.

25 The term "tissue-type specific" as it applies to a promoter, refers to a promoter that is capable of selectively directing expression of a gene in a specific tissue. Similarly, the use of a tissue-specific promoter in the method of the present invention does not require absolute specificity. In general, the requisite specificity is found where a plurality (or, more preferably, a majority) of cells in one tissue type express a gene of interest, while virtually all (e.g., greater than 80%, and preferably greater than 90%, and more preferably greater than 95%), of the cells in other tissue types do not. In one embodiment of the present invention, the strong muscle promoter *unc54* was used (See, Example 1).

30 As used herein the term "portion" when in reference to a gene refers to fragments of that gene. The fragments may range in size from a few nucleotides to the entire gene

sequence minus one nucleotide. Thus, "an oligonucleotide comprising at least a portion of a gene" may comprise fragments of the gene or the entire gene.

As used herein, the term "substantially purified" refers to molecules, either nucleic or amino acid sequences, that are removed from their natural environment, isolated or separated, and are at least 60% free, preferably 75% free, and most preferably 90% free from other components with which they are naturally associated. An "isolated polynucleotide" is therefore a substantially purified polynucleotide.

As used herein, the term "polymerase chain reaction" ("PCR") refers to the method of K.B. Mullis disclosed in U.S. Patent Nos. 4,683,195, 4,683,202 and 4,965,188, all of which are hereby incorporated by reference, which describe a method for increasing the concentration of a segment of a target sequence in a mixture of genomic DNA without cloning or purification. This process for amplifying the target sequence consists of introducing a large excess of two oligonucleotide primers to the DNA mixture containing the desired target sequence, followed by a precise sequence of thermal cycling in the presence of a DNA polymerase. The two primers are complementary to their respective strands of the double stranded target sequence. To effect amplification, the mixture is denatured and the primers then annealed to their complementary sequences within the target molecule. Following annealing, the primers are extended with a polymerase so as to form a new pair of complementary strands. The steps of denaturation, primer annealing and polymerase extension can be repeated many times (*i.e.*, denaturation, annealing and extension constitute one "cycle"; there can be numerous "cycles") to obtain a high concentration of an amplified segment of the desired target sequence. The length of the amplified segment of the desired target sequence is determined by the relative positions of the primers with respect to each other, and therefore, this length is a controllable parameter. By virtue of the repeating aspect of the process, the method is referred to as the "polymerase chain reaction" (hereinafter "PCR"). Because the desired amplified segments of the target sequence become the predominant sequences (in terms of concentration) in the mixture, they are said to be "PCR amplified."

With PCR, it is possible to amplify a single copy of a specific target sequence in genomic DNA to a level detectable by several different methodologies (e.g., hybridization

with a labeled probe; incorporation of biotinylated primers followed by avidin-enzyme conjugate detection; and/or incorporation of ³²P-labeled deoxynucleotide triphosphates, such as dCTP or dATP, into the amplified segment). In addition to genomic DNA, any oligonucleotide sequence can be amplified with the appropriate set of primer molecules. In particular, the amplified segments created by the PCR process itself are, themselves, efficient templates for subsequent PCR amplifications. Amplified target sequences may be used to obtain segments of DNA (e.g., genes) for the construction of targeting vectors, transgenes, etc.

As used herein, the terms "PCR product" and "amplification product" refer to the resultant mixture of compounds after two or more cycles of the PCR steps of denaturation, annealing and extension are complete. These terms encompass the case where there has been amplification of one or more segments of one or more target sequences.

The term "Central Nervous System" refers to the "spinal cord" and the "brain." The spinal cord comprises white areas and grey areas. The grey area contains nerve cell bodies, whereas the white area is essentially comprised of myelinated nerves. The brain, which is also known as the encephalon, is that portion of the cerebrospinal axis which is contained in the cavity of the cranium. The brain comprises the two cerebral hemispheres, the inter-brain, the mid-brain, the pons Varolli and cerebellum, and the medulla oblongata. The two hemispheres together with the parts derived from the thalamencephalon form the forebrain. The two cerebral hemispheres are separated by the longitudinal fissure and also comprise the bylvan fissure, the fissure of Rolando, and the parieto-occipital fissure. The lobes on the external surface of the brain comprise the frontal lobe, the parietal lobe, the occipital lobe, and the temporal lobe. Placed along the middle line of the brain are, among others, the rostrum and peduncles of corpus callosum, lamina cinera, optic commissure and the pituitary body. On each side of the middle line lies the frontal lobe, olfactory lobe and the hemisphere of cerebellum.

The terms "neuron," "neural cell," and "nerve cell" are used interchangeably to refer to a cell which is located in the nervous system. Nerve cells are composed of the nerve cell body (perikaryon), one or more dendrites, and an axon. Neurons can be classified according to the number of processes originating from the cell body. Thus,

unipolar neurons have a single process, bipolar neurons have one axon and one dendrite, while multipolar neurons (which are the most common) comprise more than two processes. The term "neuron" comprises cholinergic neurons and sensory neurons. As used herein, the term "cholinergic neuron" means a neuron in the Central Nervous System (CNS) and in the Peripheral Nervous System (PNS) whose neurotransmitter is acetylcholine. As used herein, the term "sensory neuron" includes a neuron which is responsive to environmental cues (*e.g.*, temperature and movement) from, for example, the skin, muscle and joints of a mammal.

The term "nerve" refers to two or more neurons arranged in linear sequence such that the axon of one neuron establishes a structural and functional link with the dendrite of a second neuron to form a "synapse."

The term "compound" refers to any chemical entity, pharmaceutical, drug, and the like that can be used to treat or prevent a disease, illness, sickness, or disorder of bodily function. Compounds comprise both known and potential therapeutic compounds. A compound can be determined to be therapeutic by testing using the testing methods of the present invention (*i.e.*, a "test compound"). A "known therapeutic compound" refers to a therapeutic compound that has been shown (*e.g.*, through animal trials or prior experience with administration to humans) to be effective in such treatment or prevention. In other words, a known therapeutic compound is not limited to a compound efficacious in the treatment or prevention of neural related disorders.

A compound is said to be "in a form suitable for administration such that the compound is bioavailable in the blood of the animal" when the compound may be administered to an animal by any desired route (*e.g.*, oral, intravenous, subcutaneous, intramuscular, etc.) and the compound or its active metabolites appears in the blood of the animal in an active form. Administration of a compound to a pregnant animal may result in delivery of bioavailable compound to the embryonic progeny of the animal.

The "wild-type β -amyloid" or " β -peptide" gene and gene product refers to the nucleotide and amino acid sequences provided in SEQ ID NOS:6 and 7, respectively. Those skilled in the art will be well aware that certain modifications of SEQ ID NOS:6 and 7 can be made which will not interfere with the production of a polypeptide having an

activity indistinguishable from that of the wild-type β -amyloid; the present invention specifically contemplates these variant forms of β -amyloid. A "variant" of the β -peptide is defined as an amino acid sequence that differs by one or more amino acids. The variant may have "conservative" changes, wherein a substituted amino acid has similar structural or chemical properties (e.g., replacement of leucine with isoleucine). More rarely, a variant may have "nonconservative" changes, e.g., replacement of a glycine with a tryptophan. Similar minor variations may also include amino acid deletions or insertions (i.e., additions), or both. Guidance in determining which and how many amino acid residues may be substituted, inserted or deleted without abolishing biological or immunological activity may be found using computer programs well known in the art, for example, DNASTar software.

The term "an oligonucleotide sequence comprising at least a portion of a human β -amyloid gene" refers to a polynucleotide sequence (i.e., a nucleic acid sequence) containing a nucleotide sequence derived from a human β -amyloid gene. This sequence may encode a portion or all of the β -amyloid protein; alternatively, this sequence may contain non-coding regions derived from the β -amyloid gene or a combination of coding and non-coding regions. The oligonucleotide may be RNA or DNA and may be of genomic or synthetic origin.

As used herein the term "portion" when in reference to a gene refers to fragments of that gene. The fragments may range in size from 10 nucleotides to the entire gene sequence minus one nucleotide. Thus, "an oligonucleotide comprising at least a portion of a gene" may comprise fragments of the gene or the entire gene.

An animal whose genome comprises a "heterologous marker gene" is an animal whose genome contains a marker gene not naturally found in the animal's genome. In one preferred embodiment of the present invention, the heterologous marker gene is a mutant collagen gene, such as the *rol-6(su-1006)* gene. However, it is intended that other marker genes will be used with success in the present invention, including other mutant collagen genes, as well as other marker genes commonly known to those in the art.

As used herein, the term "diagnostic assay" refers to methods for the diagnosis of disease, illness, and/or pathology. It is intended that the term encompass any methods for

diagnosis, including, but not limited to assays based on immunoreactivity (e.g.,
radioimmunoassays, fluorescence immunoassays, enzyme immunoassays), histochemistry,
dye retention or binding (e.g., fixing of dyes such as Congo Red), nucleic acid-based
diagnostic methods (e.g., identification of nucleic acid sequences associated with disease
or pathology), etc.

5

EXPERIMENTAL

The following examples are provided in order to demonstrate and further illustrate
certain preferred embodiments and aspects of the present invention and are not to be
10 construed as limiting the scope thereof.

In the experimental disclosure which follows, the following abbreviations apply:
eq (equivalents); M (Molar); μ M (micromolar); N (Normal); mol (moles); mmol
(millimoles); μ mol (micromoles); nmol (nanomoles); g (grams); mg (milligrams); μ g
(micrograms); ng (nanograms); l or L (liters); ml (milliliters); μ l (microliters); cm
15 (centimeters); mm (millimeters); μ m (micrometers); nm (nanometers); °C (degrees
Centigrade); U (units), mU (million units); min. (minutes); sec. (seconds); % (percent); kb
(kilobase); bp (base pair); PCR (polymerase chain reaction); β -(1-42) amino acids 1-42 of
 β -amyloid peptide; Tris (tris(hydroxymethyl)-aminomethane); BSA (bovine serum
albumin); Fisher (Fisher Scientific, Pittsburgh, PA); Sigma (Sigma Chemical Co., St.
20 Louis, MO.); Promega (Promega Corp., Madison, WI); Perkin-Elmer (Perkin-
Elmer/Applied Biosystems, Foster City, CA); Senetek (Senetek, PLC, Maryland Heights,
MO); Boehringer Mannheim (Boehringer Mannheim, Corp., Indianapolis, IN); Stratagene
(Stratagene, Inc., La Jolla, CA); and NEB (New England Biolabs, Beverly, MA). Unless
otherwise indicated, the restriction enzymes used in these Examples were obtained from
25 NEB. *C. elegans* is available from the Caenorhabditis Genetics Center, at the University
of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN.

EXAMPLE 1

Assembly of the β -(1-42) Minigene

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In this Example, the β -(1-42) minigene used in subsequent experiments (See, Example 3) to produce transgenic *C. elegans* engineered to express amyloidic human proteins was constructed. As described below, these animals contained constructs in which the muscle-specific *unc-54* promoter/enhancer of *C. elegans* drove the expression of the appropriate coding regions derived from human β -amyloid cDNA clones, as described by C.D. Link, "Expression of human β -amyloid peptide in transgenic *Caenorhabditis elegans*," Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci., 92:9368-9372 [1995]).

First, a minigene encoding the 42 amino acid β -amyloid peptide derived from human amyloid precursor protein cDNA was assembled. The artificial signal peptide coding sequence of vector pPD52.81 was amplified under standard conditions, using primers "SP-up" (5'-CGGGATTGCCAAAGGACCC-3')(SEQ ID NO:1), and "SP-down" (5'-CCCGGTACCTGCTGGTGCAGCAAGAT-3')(SEQ ID NO: 2), cleaved with *Nhe*I and *Kpn*I restriction enzymes, and inserted between the unique *Nhe*I and *Kpn*I sites of vector pPD49.26, to produce the construct "pCL2." This process resulted in a re-engineering of the signal peptide, such that the signal peptide cleavage site, as predicted by the consensus of von Heijne (G. von Heijne, Nucl. Acids Res., 14:4683-4690 [1986]), occurred immediately after the Gly-Thr dipeptide encoded by the *Kpn*I site.

A 146-bp fragment encoding amino acids 1-42 of β -amyloid, and which contained an artificial stop codon, was amplified using standard methods, from human β -amyloid precursor protein cDNA clone p4T4B (P. Ponte *et al.*, Nature 331:525-527 [1988]), by using primers " β -1-42-up" (5'-GGGGTACCGATGCAGAATTCCGACATGA-3') (SEQ ID NO:3), and " β -1-42 down" (5'-CCCGAGCTCACGCTATGACAACACCGCCAA-3')(SEQ ID NO:4). The amplification product was cleaved with *Kpn*I and *Sac*I, and inserted between the unique *Kpn*I and *Sac*I sites of pCL2, to generate "pCL3."

The signal peptide/ β -(1-42) minigene fragment was removed from this plasmid by digestion with *Nhe*I and *Sac*I, and inserted between the unique *Nhe*I and *Sac*I sites of pPD30.38, to produce "pCL12." The sequence of the β -(1-42) minigene was confirmed by dideoxy DNA sequencing of the coding strand only, by techniques known in the art. The sequence of pCL12 (SEQ ID NO:5), is shown in Figure 2. A graphic map of pCL12 is provided at Figure 3. Figure 4 shows the DNA and amino acid sequences (SEQ ID NOS:

6 and 7, respectively) of pCL12 from nucleotide 1071 through 1253 (*i.e.*, the β (1-42) nucleic acid and amino acid sequences) present in the construct.

EXAMPLE 2
Construction of the hsp/GFP Reporter

In this Example, the expression vector ("pCL25") containing the hsp/GFP reporter which drives the expression of the GFP-TT gene was constructed. This vector was used in subsequent experiments (See, Example 3) to produce transgenic *C. elegans* was constructed. GFP-TT is a modified form of GFP that contains Ser65Thr and Ile167Thr (the numbering is relative to the sequence of the wild-type GFP). The substitutions present in GFP-TT produce a protein which results in the production of a much brighter fluorescence than the wild-type GFP.

pCL25 was constructed as described below. A 431 bp *Hind*III-*Bam*HI fragment containing the hsp16-2 promoter was excised from the plasmid "pPD49.78," by digestion with *Bam*HI and *Hind*III. This 431 bp *Hind*III-*Bam*HI fragment was inserted between the *Hind*III (nucleotide #1) and *Bam*HI (nucleotide #31) sites of the GFP-TT gene in the plasmid "pGFP-TT," (available from Yishi Jin, at the University of California, Santa Cruz), using T4 ligase (Promega). The pGFP-TT plasmid contains the coding regions for GFP-TT inserted into a Tu61 backbone. The DNA sequence of pGFP-TT (SEQ ID NO: 8) is shown in Figure 5. A schematic map of pGFP-TT is shown in Figure 6, in which unique restriction sites are shown. The pGFP-TT plasmid was digested with *Hind*III and *Bam*HI, and the 431 bp fragment containing the hsp16-2 promoter was inserted, in order to generate the stress-inducible expression vector "pCL25." The DNA sequence of pCL25 (SEQ ID NO:9) and restriction map are shown in Figure 7. Figure 8 provides a schematic map of pCL25 in which unique restriction sites are shown.

EXAMPLE 3

Construction of Transgenic Animals

In this Example, the transgenic parent animals were produced, with one line expressing the $\beta(1-42)$ minigene (designated as "CL2005") and the other line expressing the hsp/GFP reporter (designated as "CL2070"). For both lines, the transgenes were introduced into *C. elegans* by gonad microinjection as known in the art and described by Mello *et al.* (Mello *et al.* EMBO J., 10:3959-3970 [1991]). Marker plasmid pRF4 containing the gene (*rol-6[su1006]*) (SEQ ID NO:9)(pRF4 carries a 4 kb *Eco*RI fragment of *C. elegans* genomic DNA containing the *rol-6[su1006]* collagen gene in the Bluescribe vector [Stratagene]; See, Mello *et al.*, *supra*; and Kramer *et al.*, Mol. Cell. Biol., 10:2081-2090 [1990]) was coinjected with the constructs, at approximately 100 ng/ μ l for each plasmid, into morphologically wild-type animals, and Roller transgenic progeny were recovered. The (*rol-6[su1006]*) gene (SEQ ID NO:9), contained within the pRF4 plasmid is a mutated *C. elegans* collagen gene, the expression of which produces the dominant, distinctive "Roller" phenotype. Figures 9 and 10 show the DNA and amino acid sequences of the *rol-6* gene used in this Example, respectively.

Transmitting lines were established and maintained by selection for the Roller marker phenotype. Transgenic animals produced in this manner maintain the injected DNA as an extrachromosomal, multicopy array of variable mitotic and meiotic stability. Strains containing chromosomally integrated transgenes were recovered by irradiation of lines containing extrachromosomal transgenic arrays with 7000 rad (1 rad = 0.01 Gy) of gamma rays from a Cesium-66 source. Progeny of irradiated animals were then screen for 100% transmittance of the marker transgene. The transgenes in both the CL2005 and CL2070 lines were chromosomally integrated, and were 100% stable.

Transgenic (*i.e.*, as indicated by the Roller phenotype) animals produce both transgenic (*i.e.*, Roller) and non-transgenic (*i.e.*, non-Roller) progeny. These non-transgenic progeny were found to serve as good internal controls for phenotypic and immunohistochemical comparisons. The expression of GFP in the dual transgenic animals can be detected in less than 24 hours after the upshift of animals from 16 to 25.5°C, at all

stages of development, from late embryonic to adult. Expression of GFP resulted in the production of green fluorescence in muscle cells; intense tissue-specific expression of GFP was observed. The fluorescence can be observed using compound or dissecting epifluorescence microscopy (*i.e.*, with standard fluorescein excitation and emission filters). It is also contemplated that the fluorescence is observable by use of fluorimeters and cell sorters.

EXAMPLE 4

Immunohistochemistry of Transgenic Animals

10

In this Example, immunohistochemistry was used to confirm the transmittance of the chimeric constructs in large populations of putative integrated lines.

15

As described by Link (Link, 1995, *supra*), whole mount specimens were prepared by fixing animals in 4% paraformaldehyde and permeabilizing them with 2-mercaptopropanoic acid as known in the art and described by Link *et al.* (Link *et al.*, Genetics 131:867-881 [1992]). Three antibodies were used (polyclonal rabbit anti- β -peptide antibody, Boehringer Mannheim; mouse monoclonal antibody Ab 4G8, available from Senetek; and monoclonal 4.1, a gift from B. Cordell at Scios Nova). The monoclonal 4.1 recognizes residues 8-15 of β -peptide.

20

As was observed by Link (Link, 1995, *supra*) animals transgenic for the *unc-54*/ β (1-42) minigene construct contained muscle-specific deposits of anti- β peptide immunoreactivity. Non anti- β -immunoreactivity was observed in control animals (*i.e.*, non-transgenic, wild-type *C. elegans* tested concurrently). Although *C. elegans* is reported to contain a homolog of the β -amyloid precursor protein gene (See, Daigle and Li, Proc.

25

Natl. Acad. Sci., 90:2045-2049 [1993]), this sequence does not contain an apparent β -peptide domain. Thus, it would not be expected, nor did it show, cross-reactivity with the anti- β antibody used in these experiments. For dually transgenic animals, immunoreactive deposits accumulated in the body wall of the animals.

30

Next, to determine whether the immunoreactive deposits observed in the *unc-54*/ β (1-42) strains displayed the tinctural properties of classic insoluble β -amyloid, transgenic

strains were fixed and stained with thioflavin S, a fluorescent amyloid-specific dye, as known in the art, and described by Guntern and Bouras (R. Guntern and C. Bouras, Experientia 48:-10 [1992]). Thioflavin S-reactive deposits were found in all strains containing the *unc-54/β-(1-42)* minigene constructs, but not in control wild-type animals.

5 Whole mounts of fixed dual transgenic animals stained with coumarin-phallacidin (a muscle-specific probe) and anti- β peptide antibody. Muscle-specific β peptide deposits were observed, and showed a qualitative correlation with the level of GFP expression in these muscle cells (*i.e.*, cells that contained more β -peptide deposits were more green than cells with less β -peptide deposits).

10 In addition, Congo Red and Chrysamine G, two dyes known to interact with β -amyloid and have been reported to interfere with its aggregation are tested on the dually transgenic animals. Anti-oxidants (*e.g.*, vitamin E and ascorbate) are also tested. In these experiments, interference with aggregation of β -peptide, or interaction with β -amyloid are observed.

15 All publications and patents mentioned in the above specification are herein incorporated by reference. Various modifications and variations of the described method and system of the invention will be apparent to those skilled in the art without departing from the scope and spirit of the invention. Although the invention has been described in connection with specific preferred embodiments, it should be understood that the invention as claimed should not be unduly limited to such specific embodiments. Indeed, various modifications of the described modes for carrying out the invention which are obvious to those skilled in molecular biology or related fields are intended to be within the scope of the following claims.

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

5. 1. A transparent animal comprising:
 - (a) a toxic transgene;
 - (b) an inducible promotor operably linked to a reporter gene, wherein the toxic transgene induces the promotor and wherein the expression of the reporter gene is detectable *in vivo*.
10. 2. The transparent animal of claim 1, wherein the inducible promoter operably linked to the reporter gene is stably integrated into the genome of the animal.
15. 3. The transparent animal of claim 2, wherein the inducible promotor is induced by disruption of cellular function.
4. The transparent animal of claim 2, wherein the inducible promoter is a heat shock promoter.
20. 5. The transparent animal of claim 2, wherein the toxic transgene is β -peptide.
6. The transparent animal of claim 2, wherein said transparent animal is selected from the class Nematoda.
25. 7. The transparent animal of Claim 6, wherein said transparent animal is *Caenorhabditis elegans*.

8. The transparent animal of Claim 2, wherein said genome comprises SEQ ID NO:5 and SEQ ID NO:8.

9. The transparent animal of Claim 2, wherein said reporter gene is green fluorescence protein (GFP).

10. The transparent animal of claim 1, further comprising a heterologous gene marker.

10 11. A method for producing a dually transgenic non-human animal comprising:

- a) providing:
 - i) a first and second non-human animal; and
 - ii) a first toxic transgene; and
 - iii) a second transgene, comprising a reporter;

15 b) introducing said first toxic transgene into the genome of said first non-human animal to produce a first transgenic animal, and introducing said second transgene into the genome of said second non-human animal to produce a second transgenic animal; and

20 c) mating said first transgenic animal with said second transgenic animal to produce a dually transgenic animal, wherein said toxic transgene and said reporter are expressed.

12. A dually transgenic non-human animal produced according to the method of claim 11, wherein the toxic transgene is β -peptide.

25 13. A dually transgenic non-human animal produced according to the method of claim 11, wherein said non-human animal is transparent.

14. The dually transgenic non-human animal of claim 13, wherein said non-human animal is a nematode.

5 15. The dually transgenic non-human animal of claim 14, wherein said nematode is *Caenorhabditis elegans*.

16. The method of claim 11, wherein said reporter is green fluorescent protein.

10 17. The dually transgenic non-human animal produced according to the method of claim 11, wherein said first transgene comprises pCL25.

15 18. The dually transgenic non-human animal produced according to the method of claim 11, wherein said second transgene comprises pCL12.

19. The dually transgenic non-human animal produced according to the method of claim 11, further comprising a heterologous marker gene.

20. A method for testing compounds for toxicity, comprising:

20 a) providing:

i) a dually transgenic non-human animal expressing a toxic transgene and reporter gene operably linked to a promoter inducible by the toxic transgene;

25 ii) a composition comprising a test compound in a form suitable for administration such that said compound is bioavailable in the cells of said non-human animal; and

b) administering said test compound to said non-human animal.

21. The method according to claim 20, wherein the toxic transgene is β -peptide and the reporter gene is GFP.

5.

22. The method of Claim 21, further comprising c) measuring a reduction in the fluorescence of said non-human animal and thereby identifying a compound as therapeutic.

23. The method of Claim 20, wherein said compounds inactivate said β -peptide expressed by said dually transgenic animal.

10

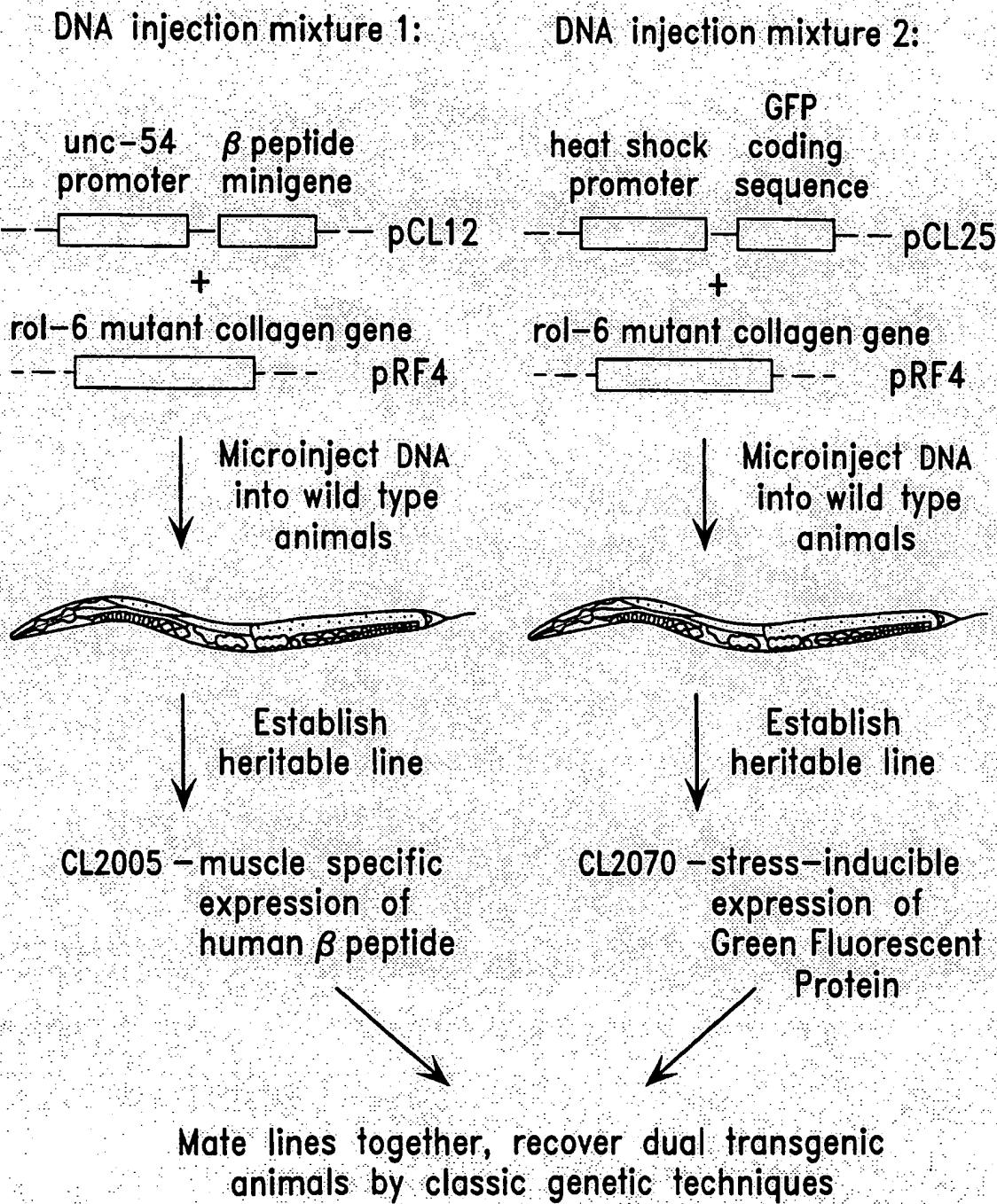


Fig. 1

Fig. 2A

Fig. 2B

Fig. 2C

Fig. 2D

Fig. 2E

Fig. 2F

Fig. 2G

Fig. 2H

Fig. 2I

Fig. 2J

Fig. 2K

Fig. 2L

Fig. 2M

Fig. 2N

Fig. 2O

Fig. 2P

Fig. 2Q

Fig. 2R

Fig. 2S

Fig. 2T

Fig. 2

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DNA Sequence:

```

243 . . . 261 275 285 291 299 305 308 310 315 320 320
          |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
          Msp I    Bsr I   Msp I    Bsm I   Msp I    Hpa I   Hinc II
          341 358 359 361 368 375 395 400 400 400 400 400 400
          |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
          Hinf I   Hinf I   Hinf I   Hinf I   Hinf I   Hinf I   Hinf I
          261 361 415 481 508 517 528 539 551 560 560 560 560
          |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
          Dde I   Bgl I   Bpu I   Sec I   Mbo I   Mn I   Mn I   Mbo I
          481 508 517 528 539 551 560 560 560 560
          |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
          CTTAGGCTAAAGTAAATGGCTTAAACTTACATAACTAAAGGAATTAGCTTACCACTTGTAGATCCAGCA
          |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
          GATCCAGCA
  
```

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554

534

519

519

520

520

523

I

Sau3A I
Mbo I
Dpn I
Bsp I
B9 I

Mse I

Mse I

Asp I

AAAGATCTGTTAAGAACCATTAATCAAACTGGTATTACATTTGGTATTAGTGTGACCAACATAAGTAAAGT.

570

579

580

562 563 563 563

640

Sau3A I
Mbo I
Dpn I

Hinc II Rsa I EcoR I

ATCACCTCTGCACCTCCATAAAAAGCTTCAACTGGCTGGCATGAGAGCTTAAGTAAAGGCTTAAGTAAAGT.

671 682 691 706

706 706

706

Sau3A I HgiA I Bsp1286 I EcoR I

Mbo I Mbo I Dpn I

CCATCTATCTCTATCCCTGGTTCTTCGTCGAATGGAAATGGACTCCACTGAGAGCTGGCTGGCAACCTCCGACCGAGGAG.

722 735 746 751

722 736 746 751

783 791 791 791

Mnl I Nla IV Ban I

Mbo I I

783 791 791 791

Fig. 2C

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69

751

736

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	Mbo II		F1	
	ECOR I	Nla III	Dde I	Pst I
SfN I	971	981	Sau96 I	Rsa I
	982	9982	Nla IV	Nla IV
Ava I	971	981	Hae III	Kpn I
Sec I	981	9982	Hae I	Ban I
Mn I	981	9982	Eco I	Asp718
	991	991	PPM I	
	990	990	Eco I	
	997	997	Mae I	
	998	998	Nhe I	
	998	998		
Sly I				
Sau96 I				
Nla IV				
Ava I				
PPM I				
Eco I				
Mn I				
CATTTAGGAGACCCCTGGCTAGCAAAATGCAATAAGCTTCTTCTGGCACACTGTCTTCTGGAAACCGATCGTT				
GTTAAAGTCCTCCCTGGAAACCGATCGTT				
1050	1061	1071	1109	1116
1051	11062		1109	1119
1052				1119
1052	1056			1119
	1056			

Fig. 2E

Fidei

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Fig. 2H

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Fig. 21

Fig. 2J

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TGCAAGCTCCGGAGACGGT	CACAGCTTGCTAAGCCGATGCCGAGCAG	AAGCCCGGTCAAGGGCCGT	2640
ACGTCCGAQGGGCTCTGCGA.	GTGTCGACATACGGCT.	GTCAGTGGCAAGTCCCCA.	.
2562 2569	2578 2583	2598	2627
2562	2564	2568	2628
2568	2568	2603	2633
2569	2569	2603	2633
Mse I	SfaN I	Dde I	Bsp1286 I
	Fnu4H I	Rsa I	Nde I
		Apal I	
CTGGGGCTTAACCTGGGGCATCAGAGCAGATTGACTGAGCTAACATGACTCTCGCTAA.	CTGGGGCTTAACCTGGGGCATCAGAGCAGATTGACTCTCGCTAA.	CTGGGGCTTAACCTGGGGCATCAGAGCAGATTGACTCTCGCTAA.	2720
CAACCCCAACGGGG.	CAACCCCAACGGGG.	CAACCCCAACGGGG.	.
2663	2671	2674	2698
			2704
			2698
			2698
Mse I	Af I	Mn I	
	B9 I	Saq96 I	
	Sf I	Eco0109 I	
	Fnu4H I	Hae III	
			Mse I
SfaN I	SfaN I	TAAGGGCTTACGCCATTGGGAAATTGGGAGCACTATGGGATAAAAATCCAATT.	2800
ACCCACACAATGGCTAAGGAGAAATACTCCATTCTTATGGCTAGTCCGGGAAATGGGAGCACTATGGGATAAAAATCCAATT.	ACCCACACAATGGCTAAGGAGAAATACTCCATTCTTATGGCTAGTCCGGGAAATGGGAGCACTATGGGATAAAAATCCAATT.	ACCCACACAATGGCTAAGGAGAAATACTCCATTCTTATGGCTAGTCCGGGAAATGGGAGCACTATGGGATAAAAATCCAATT.	2796
2729	2750	2759	2768
		2757	2766
		2759	2767
		2760	2770
		2763	
Mse I	Ahd I	BstU I	

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Fig. 2M

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<u>Mbo</u> I	<u>Sau</u> 96 I	<u>Dpn</u> I	<u>Sau</u> 3A I
<u>Dpn</u> I	<u>Ava</u> II	<u>Alu</u> I	<u>Mbo</u> I
<u>Pvu</u> I		<u>Nla</u> II	<u>Dpn</u> I
	<u>C</u> TACTTGTACAAACGATGGAGCTAACCGGCTTTCGATGGCTGGCCTGGTAGCTGTTGCTGATGAAGAC.		
	3375 3376 3376 3376	3393 3383 3383 3381	3440 3440 3440 3440
<u>Msp</u> I			
<u>Hpa</u> I			
<u>Nla</u> I	<u>Alu</u> I	<u>Mae</u> III	<u>Mae</u> II
	<u>A</u> TCCGTTGGAAACCGGAGCTGAATGAACTGGCTGGCTGGATACCTGGACTGGCAACCTGGCAACCTGGCAAC.		
	3448 3452 3452	3456 3496 3496	3520 3518 3518
<u>Hin</u> P I			
<u>Hha</u> I	<u>Mse</u> I	<u>Msp</u> I	<u>Hph</u> I
<u>Fsp</u> I			<u>Msp</u> I
	<u>T</u> GGCAAACATTAACTGGCAACTACTTACTTGTATAATTGACCGCTGATGAATGAGATGAA.		
	3522 3523 3523	3533 3554 3556 3556	3600 3582 3571 3572 3561 3562

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Sau96 I	Hinf I	Hae III	Hpa II	Hpa II
Ava II	Hha I	Bgl I	Cfr 10 I	Cfr 10 I
-	-	-	Nla IV	Nla IV
TGCAAGCACACTGGCTCGCCCCCTCCGGCTGGCTTATTGCTGATAAAACTGGAGCCGGTGGGTGACCTCTGGGACTCGGCACCCAGAG.	-	-	-	-
AGT CCT GGT GAA GGG A.	-	-	-	-
3605	3616	3623	3659	3680
3605	3616	3622	3662	3663
3622	3629	3663	3665	3665
Fnu4H I	Hae III	Pst I	Hinf I	Hinf I
BBV I	Sau96 I	Mnl I	-	-
-	Nla IV	-	-	-
GGGGTATCAATTGGGCACTGGGCCAGATGGTAAGCCCCCCCCCTACCATTCGGGGATAGCAATAGATGTGGCTCCGGTTGA.	-	-	-	-
CCCCATAGTAACGTGGTGA	-	-	-	-
3692	3700	3717	3748	3748
3692	3701	3702	Dde I	Sau3A I
3702	3702	Dde I	Mnl I	Nla IV
Fok I	Mbo I	Mse I	Mae III	Mae III
-	Dpn I	Ban I	-	-
ATGGATGAAACGAAATTAGACAGATCCCTGAGATAGGTGGCTCACTGATTGCTACCTACTTGCTTATCTGACT.	-	-	-	-
TACCTACTTGCTTATCTGACT.	-	-	-	-
3763	3781	3781	3794	3817
3781	3781	3786	3798	3798
Mse I	Sau3A I	Mae I	Mbo I	Dpn I
Dra I	Sau3A I	Dpn I	Aly I	Bst Y I
Mse I	Dra I	Bst Y I	Mbo II	Nla III

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Fig. 20

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Hinf I	Bbv I	Hha I	Ase I	Au T
GATTCAATTAGCGACGGCTGGCACCCGACTGCAAACGCCAATTAATCTGAGCTTACCTGGCTTGCGTTACCTCAAATCG.				4880
CTAAGTAATTACGTGGACCTGGCTGGCTAAAGGGCTGACCC.				
4801	4806	4812	4855	4878
4807	4814	4813	4865	
			4866	
Nla I	Scrf I	ECOR I	Msp I	
Ban I		Bst N	II	
		Sec I	Hpa II	
TCAGCTCAATTAGGCACCCCCAGGCCTTACACTTATGGCTCGGCTCGGAAATGGAAATACGAAGGGCCATACACACCC.				4960
AGTGGATAX				
4891	4891	4896	4919	
			4919	
Au I		4897	4897	
			4897	
CACACAGGAAACACCT				4976
GTGTGTCCTTCGA				
				4973

Fig. 2T

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1252	Sac I
1119	Kpn I
1119	Asp718
1116	BspM I
833	Xma I
476	Hpa I
415	Pst I
375	Bsm I
24	Bbv II
16	Hind III
	2940 Ssp I
	2762 Afl I
	2509 Apa I
	2504 SpI I
	3522 Fsp I
	2494 Spe I
	3375 Pvu I
	2488 BamH I
	3264 Sac I
	4813 Pvu II

Fig. 3

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1071 / 1101 / 11
ATG CAT AAG TTG CTG GCA CTC TTC TTT ATC TTT CTG GCA CCA GCA GGT ACC GAT GCA
met his lys val leu ala leu phe phe ile phe leu ala pro ala gly thr asp ala
1131 / 21
CAA TTC CGA CAT GAC TCA GGA TAT GAA GTT CAT CAT CAA AAA TTG GTG TTC TTT GCA GAA
glu phe arg his asp ser gly tyr glu val his his gln lys leu val phe phe ala glu
1191 / 41
GAT GTG GGT TCA AAC AAA GGT GCA ATC ATT GGA CTC ATG GTG GGC GGT GTT GTC ATA GCG
asp val gly ser asn lys gly ala ile gly leu met val gly gly val val ile ala
1251 / 61
TGA OPA

Fig. 4

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Fig. 5A
Fig. 5B
Fig. 5C
Fig. 5D
Fig. 5E
Fig. 5F
Fig. 5G
Fig. 5H
Fig. 5I
Fig. 5J
Fig. 5K
Fig. 5L
Fig. 5M
Fig. 5N
Fig. 5O
Fig. 5P
Fig. 5Q
Fig. 5R

Fig. 5

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Fig. 5A

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5B

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GAAGG || A G | CAGGAAAGAAC || A || T || CTTCCAATACATGTCTTCTTGATAAAAAGTTCTACTGCCCTGATGTCACCGACTTCAAGTCTCAAACTTCC || .

Fig. 5C

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457

Hinf I Mse I
 Msp I Taq I
 -
 TCGATTAAGCTTAAAGCTTATTGCAATTAAAGAAGATGCCAACATTCCTGGACACAAATTGGAAAT
 TGATACTCCCTTGTTAACTATATCTTAGCTCATTTCCATTAACTTCTACCTTCTGTTAACCTTA.
 492 501 506 521 522 527

Msp I
 Dra I
 -
 TCGATTAAGCTTAAAGCTTATTGCAATTAAAGAAGATGCCAACATTCCTGGACACAAATTGGAAAT
 TGATACTCCCTTGTTAACTATATCTTAGCTCATTTCCATTAACTTCTACCTTCTGTTAACCTTA.
 498 501 506 521 522 527

Xba I
 Acc I
 -
 AACACTATAACTCACACAAATCTATACATCATGGCACACAAACAAAGAAATGGAAATCAAAGTTGCTGTGTTCTAGTTCAATTGAAGT.
 581 589 598

Hinf I
 Hinc II
 -
 AACACTATAACTCACACAAATCTATACATCATGGCACACAAACAAAGAAATGGAAATCAAAGTTGCTGTGTTCTAGTTCAATTGAAGT.
 581 589 598

Msp I
 Hpa I
 Hinc II
 -
 AACACTATAACTCACACAAATCTATACATCATGGCACACAAACAAAGAAATGGAAATCAAAGTTGCTGTGTTCTAGTTCAATTGAAGT.
 612 620 628

Hinf I
 Hpa I
 Hinc II
 -
 AACACTATAACTCACACAAATCTATACATCATGGCACACAAACAAAGAAATGGAAATCAAAGTTGCTGTGTTCTAGTTCAATTGAAGT.
 667 684 704

Msp I
 Hae I
 Hinc II
 -
 AACACTATAACTCACACAAATCTATACATCATGGCACACAAACAAAGAAATGGAAATCAAAGTTGCTGTGTTCTAGTTCAATTGAAGT.
 667 684 704

Sau96 I
 Hae I
 Hinc II
 -
 AACACTATAACTCACACAAATCTATACATCATGGCACACAAACAAAGAAATGGAAATCAAAGTTGCTGTGTTCTAGTTCAATTGAAGT.
 704 720

Fig. 5D

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Fig. 5 E

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Dde I	Mbo II	Fok I	NspH I	HgtA I
			Nsp7524 I	Bsp1286 I
CTAAGTCCAAATACCTCTCAACATCCCCTACATGCTTCTTCCACCCCCCTATTGTTGCTCCGACGGGACACGGGTGGGAATAAACAAATATAGTTT.				1040
961	975	982	989	989
			990	1006
Mse I	Mbo II	Alu I	Mse I	Hph I
			Mae I	Mae I
AACTCTCTTAATTCCTTCTTAACTAAAGAAATTAAAGAA.	1045	TAGCTTCAAGCTTAAAGAAATCAAGAAATTCAGTTGAGA.	TAAGTCACCTCTAACATAACAATGAAATTGTTACTTAA.	GATTCAAAATCTAACACATCTAAAGTTATCTT.
			1068	1076
				1084
				1080
				1081
Mse I	Mbo II		Mnl I	Mse I
			HgtA I	Ase I
TAAATTCTGTAATAAAAGCTCCAAAAAAATTGCTCCCTCCCCCATTAATAATTCTTCCAAATCTAACACAAATGCTGTTAGCTGTAACTTAAAGCA.	1121	TAAATTCTGTAATAAAAGCTCCAAAAAAATTGCTCCCTCCCCCATTAATAATTCTTCCAAATCTAACACAAATGCTGTTAGCTGTAACTTAAAGCA.	TTAGCTGTTAGCTGTAACTTAAAGCA.	1200
			1139	1151
				1151
				1167
Rsa I				1157
TCTGCTACACTCTTATGTTTACTCTGATAAAATTGAAACATCATGAAATCAAAATAAGACATGTAAGAAAT.	1207	TCTGCTACACTCTTATGTTTACTCTGATAAAATTGAAACATCATGAAATCAAAATAAGACATGTAAGAAAT.	TTGCGGTGTTTAT.	1280
Nla III	Mbo II	Mae I	Hae III	Nla III
			Mn I	BSPH I
			Sau96 I	Aat I

CC TT A C T A G C T T C A G C C G A A T T T T A T T C A A G C T T C A A T C A
 G G A A T T A G T A C A T G C A A A G T C A A A T C G G T T A A A .
 1287 1292 1295 1325 1332 1338 1339 1341 1349 1350 1359 1360
 1345 1346
 Mse I
 Ase I
 1440

Fig. 5G

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	Mse I	Xba I	Hind III	Mae I	Spe I
GGACTAGTCTATGGGT TTTGCCATTAAATGACAGAATACATTCCCATAACCAACATAACIGITTCCTACTAGTC CCTCATCACAGAACCCAAACGGAAATTACGTTTACTGCTTATGGTTATGTAAGGGT.	1627	1637	1656	1674 1675	1680 1680 1680
Sau96 I					
Sau96 I					
Nla IV					
EcoO 109 I					
Bsp1286 I					
Rsa I					
Sph I					
Bgl I					
Apa I					
Hae III					
Hpa II					
GGCGGTACGGCCCCCTCGGCTCGGGTGGATGACGGTCAAACCTCTGACACATGCAGCTCGAAGGCCACTACTGCCACATGCCAAGCCAAAGGAAGCA.	1681	1690	1703	1713 1722	1730 1738 1739
CGGCATCGCCGGAAAGCA.	1681	1689	1704	1730 1738 1739	1749 1748 1748
1682	1689	1704	1705	1742	1749
1684				1744	1748
1685					
1689					
1689					
1689					
1690					
Scrf I					
Nci I					
Msp I					
Hpa II					
Bcl I					
NspB II					
Hpa I					
BstU I					

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1943	N I q IV		
Mae II	BstU I		
Aha I	HinP I		
Aat I	Hha I		
	ITAGACCACGGTGGCACCTTTCGGGAAATGTCGGCCATTACGCCCTAACGGATAAA.	2080	
2004	2034		
2004	2034		
2005	2035	2038	
	N I q III		
	BSPH I		
	ATCGGCTCATGAGACAATACCCCTGAAATTAGGACTATTAGGACTTTGTT.	2160	
	TAAGGGGAGTACTCTGTAT.		
2087	2120		
2088	2133		
	Fnu4H I		
	GTGCCCTATGCCGATTGGCAAAACGGGAAAGGACAA.	2240	
	CAGGGGATAAAGGAAT.		
2182	2188		
	Sau3A I		
	HgiA I		
	Bsp1286 I		
	Dpn I		
	Apal I		
	Mbo I		
	TAAAGATCAGTGGGTGCACGAGTGCTACATCGAACGGATCTCAACAGGGTAAAGATCCCAGAGTTGCTACCCAAATGAGCTGACCTAGAGTTGCTACCCATCTAGGAACCTCAAAGGGGGC.	2320	
2242	2267		
2245	2255		
2245	2255		
2245	2255		
	2273		
2273	2281		
	2281		
	2281		
	2298		
	2298		
	2298		

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	2281	2298	SCRF I
Dra I	BstU I	Nci I	
Hgi A I	HinP I	Msp I	
Mse I	Hha I	Hpa I	
BSP 1286 I	-	Bcl I	
Xmn I	-	Hha I	
AAGAACGTTTCCAAAGGTACTCGTCAA.	TTAACGCTATGGCCGATACAC.	CCCCGATTCACGCCAAGAC.	2400
TTCTTGC	2340	2366	
2323	2340	2366	2386
2325	2348	2367	2386
			2390
			2390
			2390
			2390
Fnu4H I	Hph I	SfaN I	Fok I
Dde I	Rsa I	Mae III	
CAACTCGGTGGGCAACATACTTGCTCAGAAAGACTGGT.	TGAGTACCTACAGTGGTCAAGT.	CACAGAAAAGCATACCCATGG.	2480
GTTGAGCCAA.	AACTCATGAGCTTACTGAAGT.	TTCGTAGAAATGCCATACC.	
2411	2426	2444	2455
		2445	2449
			2449
Nla III	Fnu4H I	Hae III	Sau3A I
Bbv I	Nla III	Gd I	Mbo I
	-	Eag I	Dpn I
	Fnu4H I	Pvu I	Pvu I
CATGACACIAAGAGAAATTGCACTGGCCATAACCATGAGTGA.	TTGGTACTCACATTG.	GGGGCAACTTACITCTGACAACGATCC.	2560
GTACTGCAATTCTCTAA.	ACGTCAAG.	TGAAAGACTGTGCTAGC.	
2481	2517	2533	2555
		2534	2556
		2506	2556

Fig. 5L

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Fig. 5M

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Fig. 50

Fig. 5P

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3942 ————— 3971 ————— 3976 ————— 3992
 3976 3976 3993

HinP I	Mse I			Nla I			
Hha I	Ase I			Ban I			
ACGACAGGT TCCCGACTGGAAAGCCCCAGT GAGC GCAACGGCAATTATGAGTTAGCTCACTCATTA				AGGCAACCCCAG 4080			
TGCTGCCGTTCACTCGGTAAAGGCCAATGAGTCAAATCGAGTTGAGATA.				CCGGTGGTC.			
4035	4045	4058	4071	4076	4077	4077	4077
4035	4046						

Msp I
 Hpa II

CCTTACACTTATGGCTCCGGCTCGTAATGTTGAGGGATAACATTTCACACAGGAAACAGCTATGA 4160
 CGAAATGTAATGGAAAGGGCGAGGATAACAACACACCTTAACACTCGGCCTATTGTGATACT.

4099
 4099
 4153

Nid III

CCATGATTACGGC 4173
 GGTTACTAAATGGGG 4162

Fig. 5R

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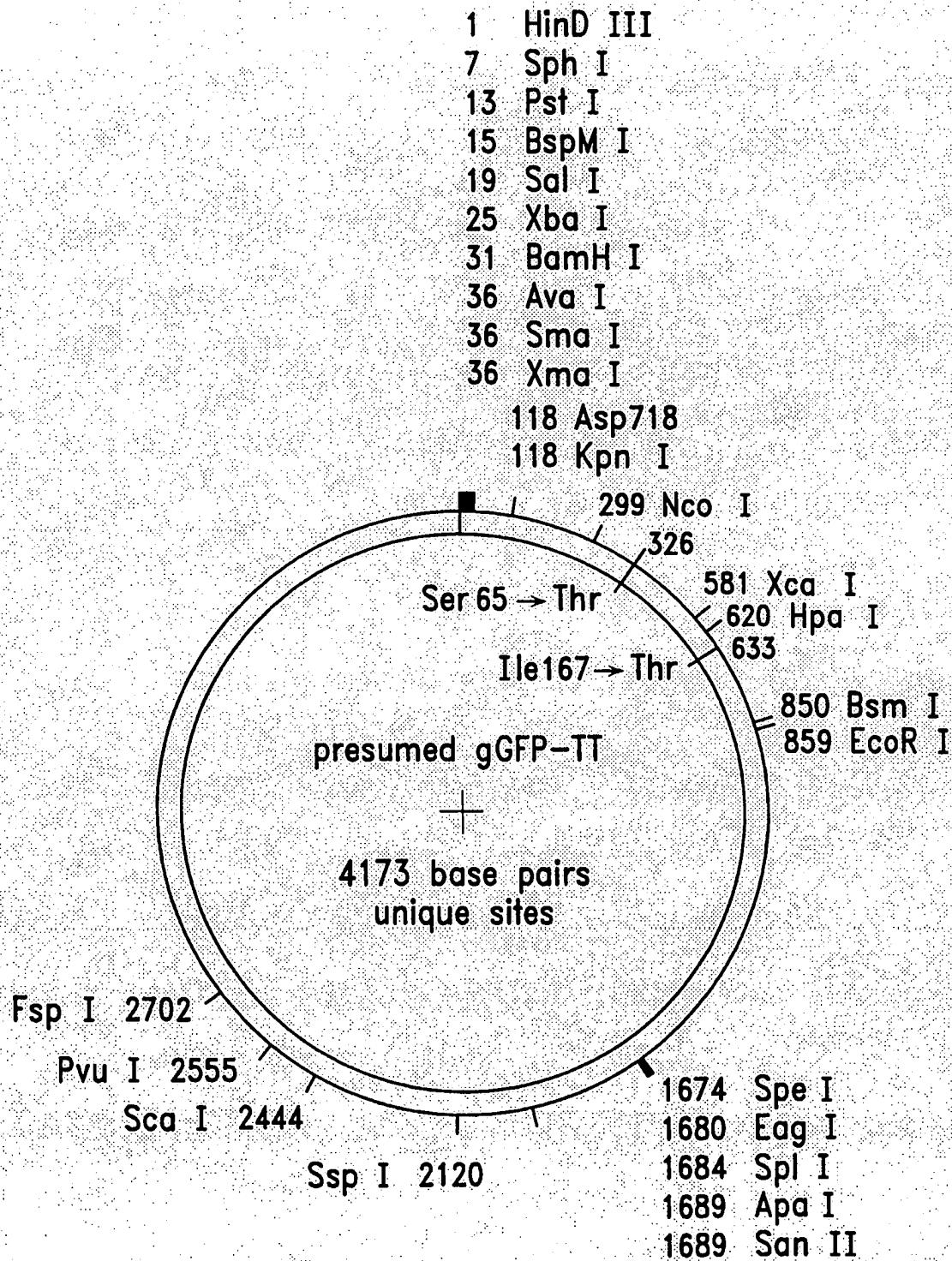


Fig. 6

1942 Afl II

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Fig. 7A
Fig. 7B
Fig. 7C
Fig. 7D
Fig. 7E
Fig. 7F
Fig. 7G
Fig. 7H
Fig. 7I
Fig. 7J
Fig. 7K
Fig. 7L
Fig. 7M
Fig. 7N
Fig. 7O
Fig. 7P
Fig. 7Q
Fig. 7R
Fig. 7S
Fig. 7T

Fig. 7

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Fig. 7A

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174 184 190 209
 179 187 209
 180 210

Rsa I Msp I Hinf I Pst I
Nla III Hinc II Hinf I Mnl I
Xba I Bpu4H I Bbv I Tth I
Fnu4H I Bbv I Tth I Tqq I

TGATCTGGTCTTTATTGTACACTTTCCATTGACCAAGTGAATGAGGAAATACATGATGAAAGTACATGGCTTACACATAGACCCAGAGAAATACATAGACCC.
 263 277 280 291 298 311 314
 316 319

Xba I Msp I Hinf I Pst I
Xba I Nci I Hpa II Bcl I
Sma I Nci I Hpa II Bcl I
Scrf I Nci I Hpa II Bcl I
Scrf I Nci I Bcl I Ava I
Scrf I Nci I Bcl I Sec I
Scrf I Nci I Ava I Sau3A I

CAATGTTAGAAAAGGTGGAAATAGTATAAAATACCGTCAATTGCTTAATTGAACTTTTATGGCTTGTAAACGAGGAACTT.
 CTACAGATCTTTCACCTT

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Fig. 7B

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Fig. 7C

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Fig. 2

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Nde I	Sau3A I	Nla III	Nla III	Nla III
Mbo I	Dpn I	Nla III	Nla III	Nla III
				Hph I
795	795	795	795	795
760	760	760	760	760
763	763	763	763	763
Rsa I				
811	811	811	811	811
800	800	800	800	800
880	880	880	880	880
960	960	960	960	960
1040	1040	1040	1040	1040
1034	1034	1034	1034	1034
1021	1021	1021	1021	1021
1022	1022	1022	1022	1022

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Fig. 7F

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Ase I	Taq I	Bsp1286 I	Ase I	
ATTAATTCTAAATAAAAGTCCAAAAATTGCTCCCCATTAAATCCTACACAAAT				1600
TAAATTAGCATATAAAGCTTTAACCGGGGAAAGGGGTTAAGATAAGATGGTTA.				
1521	1540	1552	1567	
1522		1552	1568	
Rsa I				1680
GTTCGTGTACACTTATGTTTACTCTGATAAAATTTGAACATCATAGAAAACCCCACACAAAT				
CAAGACACATGTGAAGAAACAAATGAAAGACTTAAAGAAAT.				
				1608
Rsa I				
Mae I	Mae III	Hae III	Nla III	
Nde I	Mae II	BspH I	Mae I	
ACCTTATCATATGGTATACGTTCAGTTTATGACCCGAATTAAAGCTTAAAGTCAAATGCAATAGT				
TGGAAATAGTATACAAATGCAAAAGTCAAATGCAATAGT.				
1688	1696	1726	1733	1742
1693			1740	1751
				1746
				1747
				Mse I
				Ase I
ATGCCTCATCCGAAAAAGTTTGGAGTATTTCATAAGTGAAGTTATGAAATTAAATTCCCTGCCTT				1840
TACAGTAGCTTCAAAACCTCATAAAGTTAGTTCACTTAAAGTTAGTTCAAAATACTTAAAT				
				1825
				1826

Fig. 7H

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Fig. 7K

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Sau3A I	HgiA I	Bsp1286 I	Mae I	Taq I	Sau3A I	HgiA I	Bsp1286 I	Mae I	Taq I
Mbo I	Dpn I	BpaI	ApaI	Msp I	Mbo I	Dpn I	Bsp I	ApaI	Msp I
Mbo I	Dpn I	ApaI	Msp I	ApaI	Mbo I	Dpn I	Bsp I	ApaI	Msp I
CTGAAGATCAGTTGGCTGGCAACGACTGGCTTACAATCGAACCTCACG.	GACTTCTAGTCACCACG.				CTGAAGATCAGTTGGCTGGCAACGACTGGCTTACAATCGAACCTCACG.	GACTTCTAGTCACCACG.			
2643	2656	2656	2656	2668	2674	2681	2690	2699	2699
2646	2646	2646	2646	2656	2668	2681	2688	2699	2699
2646	2646	2646	2646	2656	2668	2681	2688	2699	2699
Mae II	XbaI	HpaI	Dra I	Msp I	BstU I	HpaI	BstU I	HpaI	Msp I
Mbo I	Dpn I	Bsp1286 I	Msp I	Dpn I	HhaI	HhaI	HhaI	HhaI	Dpn I
GAAGAACGTTCCAAATGATGAGCACTTTAAACTTCTGCTGAAATTCAAGACCA.	CTTCTTCCAAAGCTTACTACT.				GAAGAACGTTCCAAATGATGAGCACTTTAAACTTCTGCTGAAATTCAAGACCA.	CTTCTTCCAAAGCTTACTACT.			
2721	2724	2741	2741	2749	2767	2767	2787	2787	2800
2726	2726	2748	2748	2749	2767	2767	2787	2787	2800
Rsa I	Dde I				Hph I				
Sca I									
CCAACTCGGTGGCCATACACTTACAAATGACTTCTGAGGACTGATAGG.	CGTGGCCATACACTTACAAATGACTTCTGAGGACTGATAGG.				CCAACTCGGTGGCCATACACTTACAAATGACTTCTGAGGACTGATAGG.	CGTGGCCATACACTTACAAATGACTTCTGAGGACTGATAGG.			
2812	2827	2845	2845	2856	2867	2867	2876	2876	2880

Fig. 7L

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<i>Bbv</i> I	<i>Nla</i> III	<i>Fnu4H</i> I	<i>Hae</i> III	<i>Sau3A</i> I
			<i>Gd</i> I	<i>Mbo</i> I
			<i>Eae</i> I	<i>Dpn</i> I
		<i>Fnu4H</i> I	<i>Pvu</i> I	
				<i>GGCCCAACCTTCTGACAACCATGTTGAAAGACTGTGCTAG.</i>
				<i>2960</i>
				<i>CGTACTGTCAATTCTCTTAAACGTCAGACGGTATTGGTACTCACT.</i>
				<i>2956</i>
				<i>2957</i>
				<i>2957</i>
				<i>2934</i>
				<i>2935</i>
				<i>2936</i>
				<i>Sau3A</i> I
			<i>Mbo</i> I	<i>Msp</i> I
			<i>Dpn</i> I	<i>Hpa</i> I
			<i>Aiw</i> I	<i>Hpa</i> I
		<i>Nla</i> III	<i>Nla</i> III	<i>Nla</i> I
				<i>TTGAAACATGGGGATCATGTAACCTGGCTTGATCGAACCTGGCTCGA.</i>
				<i>3040</i>
				<i>CGAGGCCAGGAGCTAACCGCTTCCCTGGCTCGATTGGAAAACGTTG.</i>
				<i>3041</i>
				<i>2996</i>
				<i>3002</i>
		<i>2974</i>	<i>3002</i>	<i>3029</i>
		<i>2962</i>	<i>3003</i>	<i>3021</i>
		<i>2964</i>	<i>3003</i>	<i>3033</i>
		<i>2964</i>	<i>3003</i>	<i>3033</i>
				<i>HinP</i> I
				<i>Hha</i> I
			<i>Esp</i> I	<i>Mse</i> I
				<i>Mae</i> I
				<i>GGCAACAACTTAACTG</i>
				<i>CTTACTTGGTAGGTGCTACGGACATGGCTTACGGTACGGT.</i>
				<i>3120</i>
				<i>TGATAATTGAC.</i>
		<i>3067</i>	<i>3077</i>	<i>3114</i>
				<i>3099</i>
				<i>3103</i>
				<i>3104</i>
				<i>3104</i>

Fig. 7M

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Fig. 75

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Fig. 7T

----- Alu I -----
GGCTTACACTTATGCCCTCGGCTCGTATGTTGAGGAATTGAGCCGAAACAAATTACACAGGAACAGCTTATGCTCTTGTCCTTAAGTGACTAC.
4560
4554

----- Hpa II -----
GGCTTACACTTATGCCCTCGGCTCGTATGTTGAGGAATTGAGCCGAAACAAATTACACAGGAACAGCTTATGCTCTTGTCCTTAAGTGACTAC.
4500
4500

----- Nla III -----
ACCATGATTACGCC 4574
TGGTACTAAATGCCG
4563

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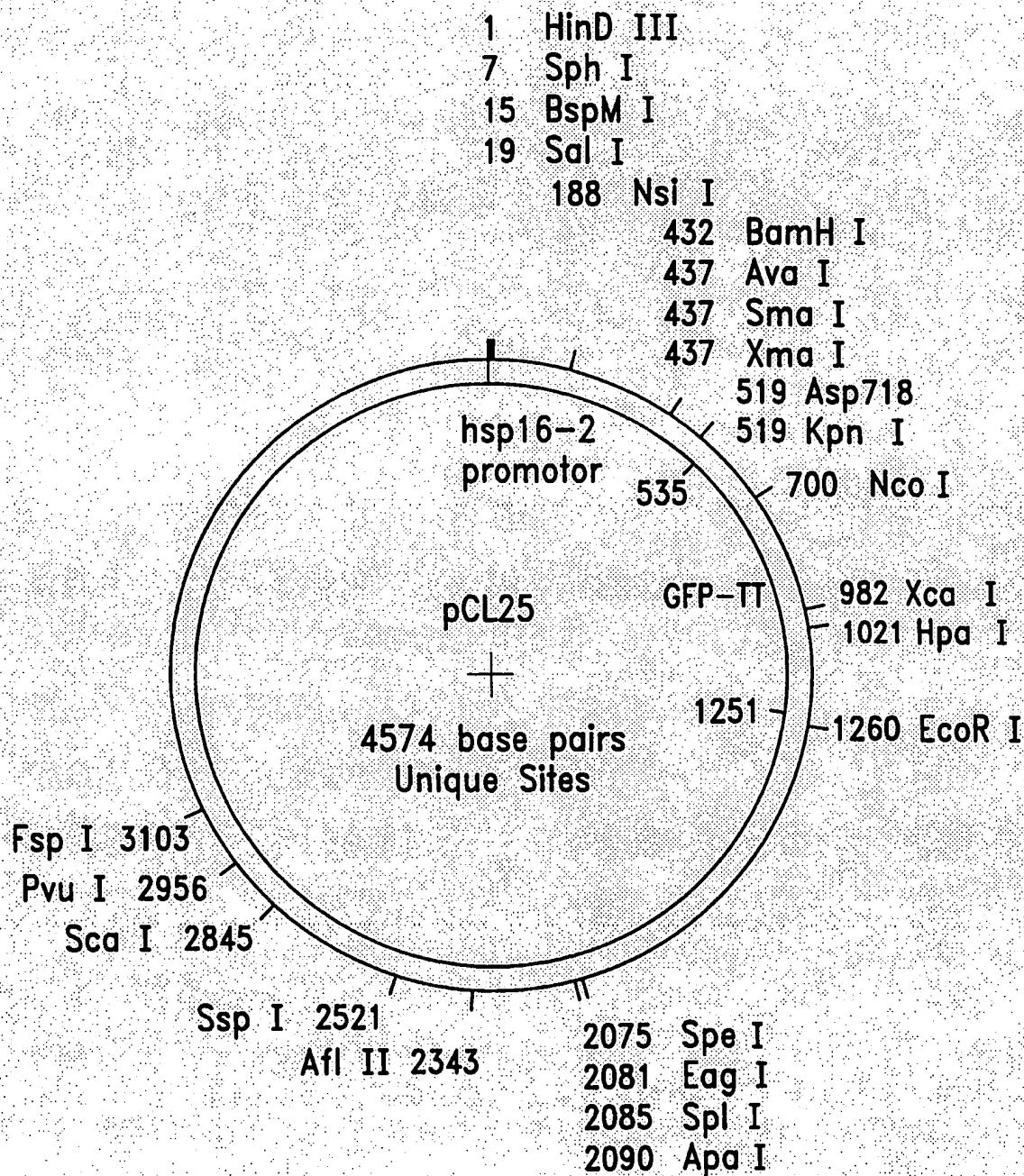


Fig. 8

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1 atccaaatga catccatg tataatgcatt ctatgtcatt ttatccatg ttatccatg
 61 ctatccat tcaatcttc tggcactcg tcacaaatc tcaataaaa atttctgttat
 121 atatcttag atctaactga caatttccag atgcccccaa ctacggcgac gtcggcgcc
 181 atgtttt ctggaggccac ttgttgtt tcttctttt ccgttgttc gctttacag
 241 caaggccca atatctggaa tgaggctggat gcccactcg ccaactcg atgtgagttc
 301 ctatccca ttatccat actgttaat tcaatattt aggtttcac tggaggccat
 361 tgggttata tgggttataact tggaggcagg accgttcca accgttgtgag acgtcaacaa
 421 tatgtggat atggagccac tggtgttca gccaccaggac caactccaaa cccatatggaa
 481 ggatatggag caagccagcc agtccccc gagaacatcc cagatgtgtt accaaatggat
 541 ggaaatcaac caaagtcc agagggtggat ttcccaatgt gaaatggggaa
 601 ggccacatgtt gaggaaatca atgtcaatgc actgttgaga actcatgccc accaggacca
 661 gctggaccag aggaccaggaa aggaccaggat gggcacatg gacaatggacgg agtccaggaa
 721 ttgtacggaa aatgtggcc aatgttcaa aatgttcaa aatgtggcc aatgtggcc
 781 ccacaaatggac cacttggacc acaaggacca aatgttcaa aatgtggcc aatgtggcc
 841 ggatgtcggtt gacaaccagg acgtccaggaa agagacggaa aatgtggcc
 901 tgatggccat caggggccat cggatccatg gggaaatggcc gatctccagg agggaaatggaa
 961 gagatgtggat gagatggccat gggccggccca gaccaatggaa gacccatgg
 1021 ccaggggac cacaggacc aatgtggaaaga gatgtttatc caggacacgtt cggaccacaa
 1081 ggatggccat gccttcaagg atatggggaa gctgttgttggat ggtatggaaaa
 1141 atatataac gacttctgt aatataaaa atttcagacc agaggacca cccaggaccc
 1201 cagacttc agggaaaatggat gcaaatggcc agaaatggaa gtagatgtcg
 1261 gatggatggc cagacgttc aatgttagac aatgtcaatgaa cattttcca
 1321 ccaggataaa cttatcttc aatgtttttt gtttttacca tggatgtttt aaaaatcc
 1381 gactttttt gggggaaaaata aaaaaatcc aaaaatcc aaaaatcc

Fig. 9

MILTTATSGAVFSGATLLVSLFAAASLYSQVSNIWNELDAEIANFRSLTEDMWYDMVK
LGAGTA SNVRQQYGGYCATGVQPPAPTPNPPGQYGYGASQPAPEKFPDGFIPNGCNQP
KFPGGGFPDGPFPNGGPRGGNOCQCCTVENS CPPGPAGPAGPEGEEGPDGHDGQDGVPGFD
GKDAEDVQNTTPTGCFTCPQGPLGPQGPNGAPGLRGMRGQARGQPRGRDGNPGMPG
DCCPPGAPGS DCKPGSPGGKGDDGERPLGRPGPRGPPGEAGPEGPQGPTGRDAYPGQSG
PQCEPGLQGYCCAAGEDGPEPGAPGLPGKDAEYCKCPGREGDAGRSARRHKFQL

Fig. 10

